

MASS. Y3.LP1:J15/9  
**Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Study**

Becket • Chester • Huntington • Lee • Russell

*Cultural Resources Inventory*

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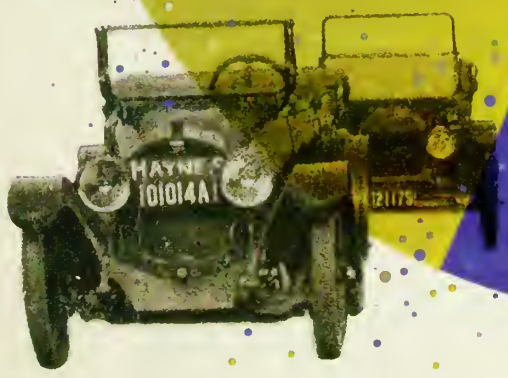
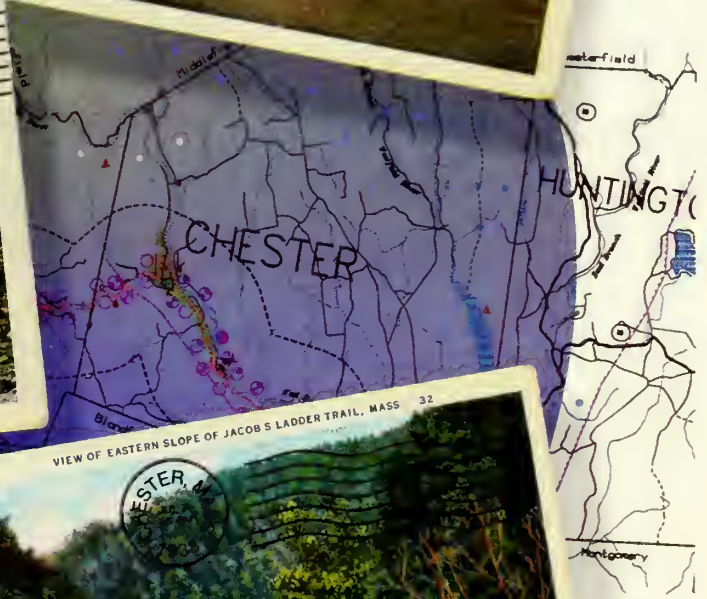
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## JACOB'S LADDER TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY STUDY:

- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- **CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY**
- HIGHWAY AND SAFETY ANALYSIS
- LAND USE STRATEGIES
- LANDSCAPE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Prepared by the  
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission  
under the direction of Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director

February 1994

Prepared in cooperation with the Massachusetts Highway Department and the  
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### Staff Credits

Project Manager:	James M. Mazik, AICP, Principal Planner
Principal Author:	Bonnie Parsons, Senior Historic Preservation Planner
Researchers:	Heli Meltsner, Historic Preservation Planner John Egelhaaf, Landscape Planner
Design and Typesetting:	Shaun Hayes, Principal Planner/Cartographer
Cover:	van Schouwen Associates.



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## **JACOB'S LADDER TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY PROJECT**

### **Background**

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) received funding under the FY92 Interim Scenic Byways Program for the purpose of recognizing, preserving and interpreting the scenic beauty and historic properties along the Route 20 corridor from Russell to Lee, Massachusetts, commonly referred to as Jacob's Ladder Trail. This Jacob's Ladder Trail area, and in particular the stretch of Route 20 which runs from Russell to Lee, has been recognized even in these modern times as an area unspoiled by commercial franchises, flashy signs and grid development. Instead, the corridor is dotted with quaint little villages and shops, neatly kept historic houses and impressive natural beauty of rock and river. In addition, the project was to prepare the Jacob's Ladder Trail communities for an increase in participation by visitors in the various local cultural and recreational activities by providing adequate public facilities and access to natural and man-made places of interest. A final purpose was to put into effect local controls to provide the maximum protection for the natural and historic resources of the corridor through land use planning tools. The underlying principle of these objectives is to allow economic growth to occur without having a negative impact on the scenic and historic character of the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway.

### **Overview Of Phase I**

The FY92 Phase I Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway Program was initiated in February 1993 and consisted of four major components, historic preservation, transportation, land use and economic development/tourism. The historic preservation activities focused on completing historic resource inventories for the purpose of submission of sites and districts to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, a landscape inventory was conducted along the corridor so as to assess the scenic and aesthetic qualities of the highway. The transportation assessment included an analysis of highway and safety conditions along Route 20 for both bicycle and motorist use. The land use assessment included a detailed review of the five communities zoning bylaws with suggested revisions to address potential development concerns along the highway. A tour book was published which promoted bicyclist and motorist use of the Jacob's Ladder Trail and its immediate area. In addition, much of the data which was collected was put into a series of GIS overlays and mylar base maps to be used in the ongoing assessment and management of the Byway.

A "Jacob's Ladder Trail Advisory Committee" was also created in Phase I and served to help oversee the project and its direction. This committee consisted of representatives from all five communities, the local business association, an area bicycle shop owner and cyclist, Massachusetts Highway Department officials, Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission and the Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission.





## CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY METHODOLOGY

Methodology for the cultural resource inventories of Russell, Huntington, Chester, Becket and Lee follow the Massachusetts Historical Commission's standards for a comprehensive inventory. Each town inventory is based on these standards, however, the inventory tasks differed as Russell required a town-wide inventory, whereas Huntington, Chester, Becket and Lee already had inventories in place and only required the addition of resources associated with Jacob's Ladder Trail to meet objectives of the Scenic Byway Study. While the methodology applied to conducting an inventory is a constant, details vary in its application depending on the character of the resources, available maps, historical research material, the goals of the town's Historical Commission and prior work accomplished. Consequently, the methodology for the town of Russell, which had not yet had a town-wide inventory is treated in this report separately from the other towns, all of which have inventories in place.

### Russell

#### Preparing Inventory Materials

The first task in the Russell inventory was to gather Massachusetts Historical Commission forms for areas, buildings, structures, objects, burial grounds and parks and landscapes, and the accompanying National Register Criteria Statement forms. The PVPC was able to develop some of these forms for use on computers, which assisted in the efficiency of production and the quality of the final product.

The survey team assembled the base maps needed to locate resources and determine their street numbers. Russell assessor's maps were copied to become working base maps. A large format map indicating all buildings in town and their street numbers was obtained. When properties were selected for inclusion on the inventory, their address was located on the base maps, although their footprints were not included. Property addresses were verified using the large format map.

#### Research

To collect information about the history of the region, town, its residents, industries and individual properties, the survey used the research collections of the Russell and Westfield Public Libraries, and the PVPC Library. Private research resources included much appreciated materials from Alice Britton, Kathy Moran and Ralph Cortis. A meeting was held with the Historical Commission of Russell whose members directed surveyors to local historians and provided a list of resources they were particularly interested in following up. Finally, in doing the field work the survey team met numerous home and business owners who came forward with historic photographs, maps and valuable information on the history and architecture of their properties. A bibliography of materials used was compiled and entered on each form.

#### Field Survey

Field survey work began with a preliminary "windshield survey" in which surveyors drove every road in Russell to get a sense of the town's topography, settlement patterns, range and mix of architectural styles.

Following the initial survey, the team methodically covered the town, determining the properties to be included in the inventory on a case-by-case basis. Standard Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) criteria were applied for each property for integrity of design, setting,

materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and architectural and historic significance. As is customary, standards for architectural integrity were eased for older resources, and resources with considerable historical importance were included even though their architectural integrity was not always of the highest order.

Each selected resource was then photographed in black and white, and its negative number referenced to its address. Photographs were stapled onto completed forms with the property address written on the back.

At this point the team described each resource according to the requirements of the MHC format, using technical language where appropriate. Using the experience gained during the windshield survey and initial research findings, the team was able to evaluate the architectural significance of the resource. At the end of the project, where necessary, this evaluation was adjusted to take into account a more complete understanding of the town's architectural resources .

Concurrent with the preparation of the architectural description, the team prepared an account of each property's historical significance, placing the resource into the context of Russell's development. When additional information was found, either through new research, maps or an owner's report, it was integrated into the historic narrative. Bibliographic information was entered on each form at this point.

When the forms were completed, a sketch map was prepared, often a tracing of the large format map for accuracy. The inventoried property was indicated as a solid rectangle within a circle with other properties being shown as open rectangles. Streets and natural resources were labeled and a north arrow included.

Most of the area forms in the inventory were naturally occurring groups of buildings, such as the Moses Scout Camp at Woronoco Heights, or the Strathmore Mill complex. An area form was prepared for Crescent Mills including the mill buildings, workers' housing and school, as that community was so discrete and tightly knit. Data sheets indicating resource name, sketch map number, period of construction, building style and type of resource, were prepared for each area.

When all forms were completed, they were reviewed in order to make recommendations for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Relatively fewer properties were selected on the basis of their architectural significance. Most were selected because they represented historic themes important in the development of the community. Once the areas suggested for nomination were selected, appropriate boundaries were discussed and National Register Criteria Statements were prepared indicating the basis on which they were suggested for inclusion. A set of original forms was submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) for their files, and numbers will be assigned to them by MHC. An original set was also submitted to the Russell Historical Commission and a copy set retained for the PVPC files.

#### **Huntington, Chester, Becket and Lee**

As noted above, these towns have substantial inventories completed. However, in each town it was found that there were properties and areas adjacent to Jacob's Ladder Trail which had not yet been placed on the inventory. In each case, these resources were historically connected to

Jacob's Ladder Trail, often due to transportation considerations. In several cases, the resources crossed town boundaries, which may have affected their inclusion in town surveys.

Methodology for preparing the inventory forms followed that described above for Russell and it conformed to the standards established by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Because several of the forms extended across town boundaries, and others needed to be sequentially numbered and added to the existing inventories, the new forms were submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for numbering.

In Huntington, the Westfield - Huntington Trolley Line railroad bed was inventoried as a structure. This structure form will also be added by MHC to the inventories for Westfield, Russell and Huntington.

Chester and Becket were linked through the inventory by adding the Chester-Becket Granite Quarry railroad bed to each town's inventory as a structure form.

Becket is also the site of the original Jacob's Ladder Trail which was surveyed, as were the previously omitted Summit House, and stone cairn monument. Together these sites were also inventoried as an area and described as eligible for the National Register as a district. Jacob's Ladder and Well were added to the inventory as structures and made part of the National Register Eligibility statement. Brookside Farm was added to the inventory for Becket as well. A farm complex adjacent to the road, it is an important resource for both its buildings and open spaces.

The town of Lee has an extensive inventory, however, a portion of East Lee had as yet to be surveyed. It was also on Route 20, a larger number of properties was added than for the other towns with inventories. The Huckleberry Trolley Line railroad bed was added as a structure and it crosses through Lee, Becket, Blandford and Huntington. Individual buildings were added and at the end of the work, it was decided that there was a potential historic district which covered both the newly inventoried properties and a number of properties previously inventoried by the Lee Historical Commission.

An original set of forms was submitted both to the Massachusetts Historical Commission and to the principal towns. The Massachusetts Historical Commission will number each of the forms and if requested by the towns, will furnish the assigned numbers.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### General

The Cultural Resources Inventory project consists of a complete inventory for the town of Russell, Massachusetts and additions to existing inventories in the towns of Huntington, Chester, Becket and Lee. It focuses on the Jacob's Ladder Trail corridor and historic transportation systems which connected the towns. This project required field work, research in local libraries and historical commission files, and interviews with local historians. With the exception of Huntington, the inventory team met with members of each town's Historical Commission to describe the project and to elicit suggestions and information.

With new and updated inventories in place, appropriate recommendations have been made to serve as a preservation plan for the significant resources of the corridor. As a result of the inventory there are four specific recommendations for future preservation planning and a set of general recommendations. The specific recommendations are in the following categories:

- Nominations of Individual Resources and Historic Districts to the National Register of Historic Places.
- Long-term Preservation Planning.
- Preservation of Transportation-related Resources through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
- Recognition of Resources

### Nominations of Individual Resources and Historic Districts to The National Register of Historic Places

It is the recommendation of this project that the following individual buildings and districts be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

*Russell:* Russell Center; Woronoco; Crescent Mills; Woronoco Heights; 110 General Knox Road; 771 Huntington Road - Mortimore Farm; Cobble Mountain Reservoir.  
*Huntington:* Huntington Center.  
*Chester:* North Chester.  
*Becket:* Jacob's Ladder Summit including the Summit House, stone cairn, deer statue, Jacob's Well and Spring, and original Jacob's Ladder Trail road bed.  
*Lee:* East Lee.

### Long Term Preservation Planning

National Register Historic District status does not currently qualify a resource for financial aid to help preserve it, nor does it provide any protection for the resource against inappropriate alterations or demolition. It is the recommendation of this report that for long-term preservation of resources that local historic districts be created together with the National Register Historic Districts both on and off Jacob's Ladder Trail. Local historic districts would allow each town to establish its own standards for new construction and for alterations to historic resources. In the process of establishing local historic districts, each community would become a certified local government (CLG) which places the community first in line for state historic preservation funding.

Long term preservation planning involves finding alternative forms of funding assistance for important resources. The Historical Commission in each of the five towns along the Trail should identify its priorities for attention and within such programs as EOCD's Small Cities or Ready Resource Grants, be prepared to integrate its historic resources in the efforts of the programs. Housing rehabilitation and commercial facade easement programs are but two of the approaches to this integration. The following is a list of resources for which alternative forms of funding might best be sought. This list is not exhaustive, rather it focuses on the most visible examples identified by the cultural resource inventories.

<i>Russell:</i>	Strathmore Mill #1, Woronoco Road; Mortimore Farm, 771 Huntington Road; Crescent Mills Housing; Crescent Mills Burial Ground.
<i>Huntington:</i>	Town center commercial buildings.
<i>Chester:</i>	Maple Street Bridge; Chester Jail and Museum; Stanton Hall (former Grange Hall); Chester Railroad Depot; Pink Quarry Gothic Revival House.
<i>Chester/Becket/ Middlefield:</i>	Stone Arch Bridges.
<i>Chester/Becket:</i>	Chester Becket Granite Railbed.
<i>Lee/Huntington/ Becket/Blandford:</i>	Huckleberry Trolley Line Railbed.
<i>Huntington/Russell:</i>	Westfield to Huntington Trolley Railbed.
<i>Becket:</i>	Summit House, Stone Cairn, original Jacob's Ladder roadway and deer statue; Jacob's Well and Spring on Route 20; Houston House on Route 20.
<i>Lee:</i>	Barlow House; Dodgetown archaeological sites.

### **Preservation of Transportation-related Resources through the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act**

Transportation-related resources should be approached for preservation on Jacob's Ladder Trail as part of the heritage of the corridor. A number of transportation-related resources for which long term preservation planning is important were among the findings of the Inventories. The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) aims to preserve such resources, and the following list of projects is recommended for this approach:

- Preservation of selected buildings through facade easements for rehabilitation purposes. In the case of complexes containing significant land as well as buildings, consideration should be given to offering easements on both elements to maintain the property as a whole.
- Reuse of one or more of the significant but threatened buildings as a visitors' center for the Scenic Byway would serve to preserve them. The Chester Railroad Depot and the Summit House in Becket should be rehabilitated and reused as visitors' centers and transportation facility attractions.
- The Maple Street Bridge in Chester should be rehabilitated and reused as a visitors' attraction. This could be achieved through structural stabilization of the bridge for pedestrian and bicycle use and development of the facility as a "Bridge of Flowers".
- Similarly, Jacob's Well and Spring in Becket should be restored as an attraction within a series of landscaped turn-outs.

- The five National Register Stone Arch Railroad Bridges in Chester, Middlefield, and Becket should be preserved through the ISTEPA Enhancement Program.
- Walking, horseback riding, snowmobile, skiing, and bicycle trails should be developed along the Huckleberry Trolley Line, the Chester-Becket Granite Railroad line and portions of the Westfield Huntington Line. These historic transportation routes should be preserved throughout their reuse under the Scenic Byway Program which follows the Interim Scenic Byway Program.

### **Recognition of Resources**

We recommend that bronze National Register markers be erected at each boundary of a National Register Historic District crossed by Route 20 once the nominations have been accepted. Chester Factory Village could be the first site as it has already been put on the National Register.

We recommend that these districts be included in any brochures, guides and publications on the Scenic Byway and that they be included on any permanent displays or other interpretive materials.

We recommend that Historical Commissions in the five towns work with local schools to incorporate the history of Jacob's Ladder Trail into the curriculum using the inventory research.

### **Summary**

Inventories are never complete, rather they should continually be added to as resources come within the fifty year limit for inclusion and additional research becomes available which can be added to existing inventory forms. Most inventories begin with a town's oldest buildings, burial grounds and structures, but it is important as the inventory process continues to include the more recent buildings and cultural landscape features such as mines, quarries and parks. Structures such as dams, retaining walls, old roads, railroad beds should also be added. Archaeological sites include not only old foundations but charcoal and brick kilns, formerly occupied caves and sites of former mills, raceways and water power installations. All of these categories are found in the five towns along Jacob's Ladder Trail and will provide a permanent focus for the Historical Commissions.





**APPENDIX A:  
ENDANGERED PROPERTIES LIST**



## ENDANGERED PROPERTIES LIST

### Russell

#### Site

Birch Hill Road Burial Ground  
Crescent Mills Burial Ground  
Mortimore Farm  
Masonic Hall  
Strathmore Mill #1

#### Street Location

Birch Hill Road  
Huntington Road  
771 Huntington Road  
Main Street  
Woronoco Road

### Chester

#### Site

Railroad Depot  
Maple Street Bridge  
Pink Granite Quarry Gothic Revival  
House

#### Street Location

Chester Factory Village  
Maple Street  
Route 20

### Becket

#### Site

Summit House and Cairn

#### Street Location

Route 20

### Lee

#### Site

Houston House  
Barlow House

#### Street Location

Route 20  
Route 20



**APPENDIX B:**  
**INDICES TO INVENTORIES**



Jacob's Ladder Trail  
Cultural Resource Inventory  
Russell

Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
	Birch Hill Road	Birch Hill Cemetery	c.1793-		BG	Y-district
	Birch Hill Road	Gen.Knox Monum.	1927		O	Y-district
	Birch Hill Road	Woronoake Hts.	c.1800-1945	various	Area	Y-district
27-3-02	83 Blandford Road	house	c.1860-69	Italianate	B	Y-district
	83 Blandford Road	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	83 Blandford Road	dam	c.1875	utilitarian	Str.	Y-district
19-8-01	601 Blandford Road	Cortis House	c.1830-50	Federal	B	Y-district
	601 Blandford Road	barn	c.1920	utilitarian	B	
	601 Blandford Road	equipment shed	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
19-8-02	655 Blandford Road	house	1820/1980	cottage	B	
	655 Blandford Road	barn	c.1850	utilitarian	B	
	655 Blandford Road	chicken coop	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
19-6-09	862 Blandford Road	house	c.1830-55	Federal	B	
	862 Blandford Road	schoolhouse	1889	utilitarian	B	
	862 Blandford Road	barn	c.1890	utilitarian	B	
	862 Blandford Road	conv. chicken coop	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
19-7-15	965 Blandford Road	house	c.1830	Federal	B	
	965 Blandford Road	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
	965 Blandford Road	shed	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
5-1-02	1281 Blandford Road	house	c.1790	Federal	B	
	1281 Blandford Road	barn/garage	c.1890	utilitarian	B	
16-3-07	5 Blandford Stage Road	house/trolley stop	1855-60	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
16-5-03	20 Blandford Stage Road	school/town hall	1848	Federal (altered)	B	
	50 Blandford Stage Road	Russell Inn	1912-14	Colonial Revival (alt.)	B	
16-1-01	122 Blandford Stage Road	house	1873	Italianate	B	Y-dis.noncontiguous
	122 Blandford Stage Road	barn	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
16-2-08	141 Blandford Stage Road	house	1880-93	Queen Anne	B	
	141 Blandford Stage Road	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	
	141 Blandford Stage Road	shed	c.1940	Colonial Revival	B	

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Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
17-5-05	223 Blandford Stage Road	house	1895-1905	Queen Anne	B	
	223 Blandford Stage Road	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	
	Carrington Road	Westfield River Pa. reservoir system	c.1913-39	multiple	Area	
	Cobble Mountain Road	house	1927-32	utilitarian	Area	Y-district
17-4-04	116 Dickinson Hill Road	house	c.1835	Greek Revival	B	
	General Knox Road	Gen.Knox Monum.	1927		O	
19-7-02	110 General Knox Road	house	c.1850	Greek Revival	B	Y-Individ.
	110 General Knox Road	garage	1960	utilitarian	B	
	110 General Knox Road	barn	1960	utilitarian	B	
	367 General Knox Road	Newman Bishop	1792-93	Colonial/Bungalow	B	
	367 General Knox Road	garage	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
	530 General Knox Road	house	1837	Greek Revival	B	
	Grove Street	"The Grove"	1916-20	Colonial Revival	Area	Y-district
15-9-05	53 Highland Avenue	house	c.1940	converted hen house	B	
15-9-07	87 Highland Avenue	house	1915-25	Craftsman	B	
	87 Highland Avenue	garage	c.1920	utilitarian	B	
15-9-09	97 Highland Avenue	shop conv. house	1925	Eclectic	B	
	97 Highland Avenue	barn	c.1925			
15-7-01	108 Highland Avenue	house	1895-1900	utilitarian	B	
	108 Highland Avenue	shop/garage	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
15-9-11	123 Highland Avenue	house	c.1920	Bungalow	B	
	123 Highland Avenue	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
	Huntington Road-Route 20	Crescent Mills	c.1838-1932	various	Area	Y-district
	Huntington Road-Route 20	Crescent Mills dam	c.1931-1950		Str.	Y-district
	Huntington Road-Route 20	burial ground	c.1831		BG	Y-district
	Huntington Road	Russell Cemetery	c.1794-		BG	
	Huntington-Westfield Rte.20	trolley rail bed	1905		Str.	
	5 Huntington Road	Church	1926	Tudor Revival	B	Y-district
15-7-19	30 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	house	c.1870	utilitarian	B	
15-7-06	98 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	house	c.1840	Greek Rev./Craftsman	B	
	98 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
12-2-05	247 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	John Hawley Tav.	1795-1800	Greek Revival (alt.)	B	
	247 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	
	347 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	house	c.1900	Queen Anne	B	
	347 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	barn	c.1900	utilitarian	B	



Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
10-1-3	771 Huntington Road-Rte.20	Mortimore Farm	c.1870	Italianate	B	Y-Indivd.
9-2-06	1104 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	Crescent Mills Sch.	c.1875	Italianate	B	Y-district
	1104 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	shed	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
9-1-09	1185 Huntington Road-Rte.20	Gould House	1838-45	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
	1185 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	1190 Huntington Road-Rte. 20	Crescent Mills	c.1870	industrial mill	B	Y-district
	1-2 Laurel Road	multifamily house	c.1915	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	3-4 Laurel Road	multifamily house	c.1915	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	3-4 Laurel Road	garage	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
	97 Laurel Road	house	c.1920	Craftsman/Col. Revival	B	Y-district
	97 Laurel Road	garage	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
	109 Laurel Road	house	c.1900	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	109 Laurel Road	garage	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
15-6-15	31 Lincoln Avenue	house	1844-46	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
	31 Lincoln Avenue	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	Y-district
15-5-01	Main Street	Town Park	1869-1945		P&L	Y-district
15-5-07	10 Main Street	Bessie Tinker	1856-65	Gothic Revival	B	Y-district
15-7-22	21 Main Street	house	1855	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
	21 Main Street	barn	c.1855	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	21 Main Street	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
15-7-24	31 Main Street	house	1913-25	Queen Anne	B	Y-district
	31 Main Street	garage	c.1930	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	47 Main Street	Russell Com.Ch.	1853	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
15-7-27	55 Main Street	Town Hall	1915	Tudor Revival	B	Y-district
	55 Main Street	garage	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	55 Main Street	garage	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	55 Main Street	shed	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
15-5-02	64 Main Street	Mason's Lodge	1880-93	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
15-7-28	83 Main Street	house	1894-1900	Queen Anne	B	Y-district
	83 Main Street	garage	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	94 Main Street	house	c.1850	Gothic Revival	B	Y-district
	94 Main Street	garage	c.1950	utilitarian	B	
15-7-29	95 Main Street	house	1855-60	Italianate	B	Y-district
	95 Main Street	carriage house	1855-60	Italianate	B	Y-district
	102 Main Street	house	c.1850	Gothic Revival	B	Y-district

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Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
15-6-06	118 Main Street	house	1825-50	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
	118 Main Street	garage	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
	118 Main Street	shed	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	126 Main Street	house	1920-30	Bungalow	B	Y-district
15-9-20	131 Main Street	Horace Parks Hs.	c.1830	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
15-9-22	155 Main Street	house	c.1900	utilitarian	B	Y-district
15-6-11	162 Main Street	Russell Elem. Sch.	1923	Tudor Revival	B	Y-district
15-6-13	184 Main Street	house	c.1840	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
	189 Main Street	Russell Hotel	1895-1900	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
	11 Mt. Laurel Drive	house	1895-1905	utilitarian	B	
	11 Mt. Laurel Drive	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
	12 Mt. View Terrace	multifamily house	1913-1918	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	14 Mt. View Terrace	multifamily house	1913-18	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	Northern Avenue	dingle	19th c.		Str.	Y-district
	101 Old Westfield Road	house	1923	Craftsman	B	
	101 Old Westfield Road	garage	c.1930	Craftsman	B	
	Pine Hill Road	dam	1910	utilitarian	Str.	
	370 Pochassic Road	house	1893	utilitarian	B	Y-district
15-9-26	17 Pomeroy Terrace	house	1842-54	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
15-9-27	21 Pomeroy Terrace	house	1842-1854	Greek Revival	B	Y-district
15-9-30	37 Pomeroy Terrace	house	1830-54	Late Federal	B	Y-district
15-9-31	67 Pomeroy Terrace	house	c.1930	Craftsman	B	Y-district
15-9-39	33 River Street	house	1900-10	Queen Anne/Col. Rev.	B	Y-district
	33 River Street	garage	c.1930	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	105 River Street	house	1842-1854	Federal	B	Y-district
	205 South Quarter Road	house	c.1800-50	Federal	B	
	205 South Quarter Road	barn	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
	964 South Quarter Road	house	1840-50	Federal/Greek Rev.	B	
32-1-11	201 Tekoa Avenue	multifamily house	c.1913	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
	201 Tekoa Avenue	garage	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
	201 Tekoa Avenue	chicken coop	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
	201 Tekoa Avenue	shed	c.1990	utilitarian	B	
	260 Upper Moss Hill Road	house	1936	Neo-colonial	B	
	260 Upper Moss Hill Road	carriage house	c.1850	utilitarian	B	
	260 Upper Moss Hill Road	barn	c.1850	utilitarian	B	

Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
	260 Upper Moss Hill Road	shed	c.1890	utilitarian	B	
32-3-02	79 Valley View Avenue	multifamily house	c.1924	Craftsman	B	Y-district
32-3-01	81 Valley View Avenue	multifamily house	c.1920	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	124 Valley View Avenue	multifamily house	1913-20	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
32-2-02	130 Valley View Avenue	multifamily house	c.1913	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
32-2-01	136 Valley View Avenue	multifamily house	c.1913-16	Craftsman	B	Y-district
	Westfield Road-Rte. 20	Strathmore Park	1888-1942		P&L	Y-district
	172 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	house	1875-1895	Italianate/Colonial Rev.	B	
	172 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	shop	c.1890	utilitarian	B	
	360-172 Westfield Road	house	1840-1860	Greek Revival	B	
	360 Westfield Road-Rte.20	house	c.1850	Gothic Revival/Bungal.	B	
	360 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	garage	c.1940	utilitarian	B	
	468 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	Doolittle Tavern	1791-92	Federal	B	
	468 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	tobacco barn	c.1860	utilitarian	B	
	468 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	shed	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
	490 Westfield Road-Rte. 20	restaurant	c.1875	Queen Anne	B	
27-5-09	1141 Westfield Road-Rte.20	house	1905-15	Colonial Revival	B	
	1141 Westfield Road	garage	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
	60 West Main Street	Strathmore shed	1870-1900	utilitarian	B	
	2 Woronoco/Strathmore Mill	multifamily house	c.1900	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
	315 Woronoco Road	multifamily house	c.1910	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
	321 Woronoco Road	multifamily house	c.1913	Colonial Revival	B	Y-district
	328 Woronoco Road	grain shed	1875-85	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	334 Woronoco Road	Fred C. Orvell Bldg	1902	utilitarian	B	Y-district
	Woronoco&others	Strathmore Mills	c.1873-1947	various	Area	Y-district



Jacob's Ladder Trail  
Cultural Resource Inventory  
Lee

Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	N/R El.
20-19	163 Cape Street	house	c.1905	utilitarian	B	
20-13	319 Cape Street	Gates House	c.1850	Gothic Revival	B	Y-district
20-13	319 Cape Street	garage	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
20-13	319 Cape Street	shed	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
20-13	319 Cape Street	shed	c.197-	utilitarian	B	
20-20	379 Cape Street	de Forest House	c.1890	utilitarian	B	
20-24	431 Cape Street	house	c.1850-1870	Italianate	B	
20-24	431 Cape Street	shop	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
21-20	589 Cape Street	Ingram Chapel	c.1880	Queen Anne	B	
21-20	589 Cape Street	barn	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
21-28	Cape Street	Barlow House	c.1830	Greek Revival	B	
21-26	633 Cape Street	house	c.1870	altered	B	
21-26	633 Cape Street	studio	c.1960	utilitarian	B	
21-25	645 Cape Street	restaurant	c.1850	Gothic Revival	B	
21-25	645 Cape Street	storage building	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
	Chapel Street	Bradley St. Sch.	c.1800	Federal	B	Y-district
28-20	Jacob's Ladder Road	Griffin Farm	c.1830	Greek Revival	B	
28-20	Jacob's Ladder Road	livestock barn	c.1830	utilitarian	B	
28-20	Jacob's Ladder Road	storage barn	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
28-20	Jacob's Ladder Road	storage barn	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
28-20	Jacob's Ladder Road	shed	c.1980	utilitarian	B	
28-7	Jacob's Ladder Road	Clark House	c.1830	Late Federal	B	
28-7	Jacob's Ladder Road	kennel	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
28-7	Jacob's Ladder Road	stable	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
28-7	Jacob's Ladder Road	barn	c.1900	utilitarian	B	
	Lee, Becket, Blandford, Becket, Otis	Huckleberry Trolley Line	1911-1918			Str.



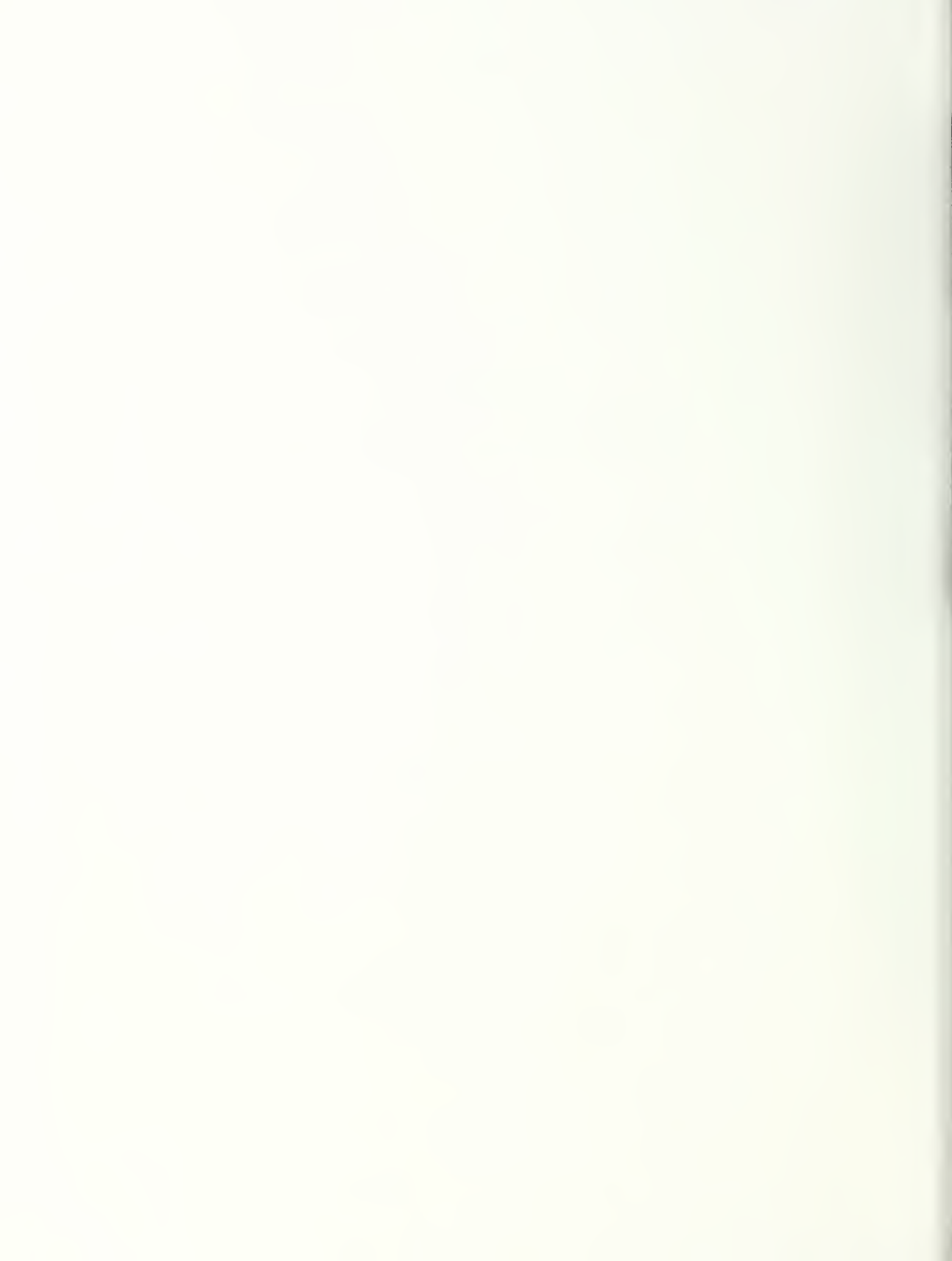
Jacob's Ladder Trail  
 Cultural Resource Inventory  
 Becket, Huntington, Chester

Asses.#	Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Resource	NR El.
	Route 20 cor. Fred Snow	Summit House	1925	Craftsman/C.Rev.	B	y-district
	Route 20 cor. Fred Snow	stone cairn	1910		O	y-district
	Route 20 turn -out	Jacob's Well	c.1930		St.	y-district
	Route 20	Jacob's Ladder	18th c.		St.	y-district
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	Brookside Farm	1857	Greek Revival	B	
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	barn	c.1850	utilitarian	B	
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	barn	c.1857	utilitarian	B	
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	barn	c.1850	utilitarian	B	
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	garage	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	Route 20 at Palmer Br.	golf shack	c.1970	utilitarian	B	
	largely south of Rte. 20	Chester/Becket				
	Chester and Becket	Granite Quarry RR	c.1898		St.	
	Huntington to Westfield	Huntington/Wsfld				
	near Route 20	Trolley Line	1905		St.	





**APPENDIX C:**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY FORMS**



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

11-2-12

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission



Russell

neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

771. Huntington Road

Name G. H. Mortimore Farm

Present Vacant

Original Farm/residence

Construction c. 1855-1870

maps, 1855 and 1870

Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof Slate/asphalt over slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn,

garage/shed, shed

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

1 story rear extension, c. 1920s, porch added

(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

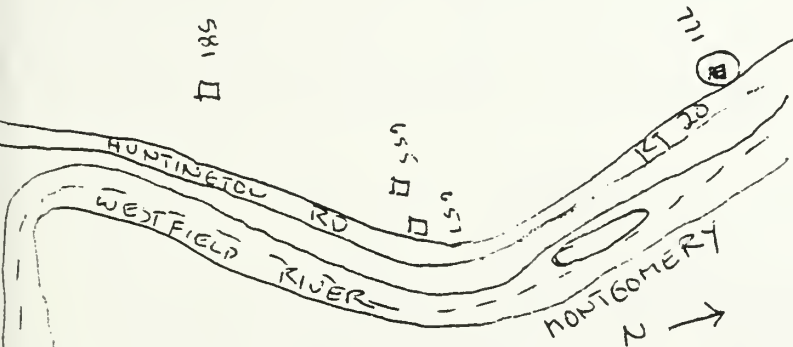
Acreage at least 12 acres

Setting Close to road, at base of hill, steep

slope at rear leads up a thickly vegetated hill.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a good example of the transition between the Greek Revival and Italianate styles in Russell, and one of its few fine Italianate houses. The two story building retains the temple front form, turning the gable end to the street. Here it has the taller, wider proportions of the Italianate, being four bays wide with the door in the second bay of the facade. The eaves make a full return to create a pediment in the gable field. Centered on the gable field is one of the many circular windows, which are almost a signature of the farm, as it is repeated in the one story ell and the large, prominent barn just the south. The wide door surround featuring full length sidelights is shielded by Italianate scrolled hood, a stock item. The shutter are probably original, while the 1/1 sash would have been installed later.

A one story ell on fieldstone foundations with porch located on south side has Colonial Revival detail. The porch may have been added around the turn of the century. A rear extension with a lean-to roof and novelty siding may have been added in the 1920s or 30s, an attached shed at west end is two story with rubble stone foundations. The remaining L shaped, 2 story barn on rubble stone foundations is built into the hillside. Around the turn of the century it had a large shed roof section, now demolished, and a second barn was located uphill. Another outbuilding behind the house is 1 1/2 stories high and has multi-pane sash. The house and its fields are a significant resource for Russell as they are highly visible and relatively intact remnants of its agricultural past.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This farmhouse and its barns could have been built between 1854 and 1869, as it is not clear whether it appears on the map of 1855, but it certainly appears on the map of 1870 as belonging to the Mortimer (sic) family. The farm was associated with that name well into the 20th century. It is pictured in Russell's bicentennial celebration calendar, and a feature on "The Mortimore Girls" appears in the bicentennial book published in 1992.

From 1891 to '94, George H. Mortimore was a Selectman. Around the turn of the century, William Mortimore was said to be "an enterprising and successful farmer and cattle dealer", while Henry G. Mortimore was a farmer and cattle dealer. Farming was an economic mainstay of the local economy through the turn of the 20th century. Writing around 1902, an historian stated "For more than a century the 8,340 acres of land comprising the town have been devoted chiefly to agriculture. The town has many excellent farming areas and the hill tops generally afford excellent pasturage for cattle." Sarah Mortimore, who died recently, stayed on the farm with her parents George and Catherine and worked in the trolley car office. Its tracks ran up Huntington Road past the farm from 1905 until 1926, when the trolley service was discontinued.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People., c. 1902.

Town of Russell: Two Hundred Years. Historical Calendar, 1992.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM F - STRUCTURE

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

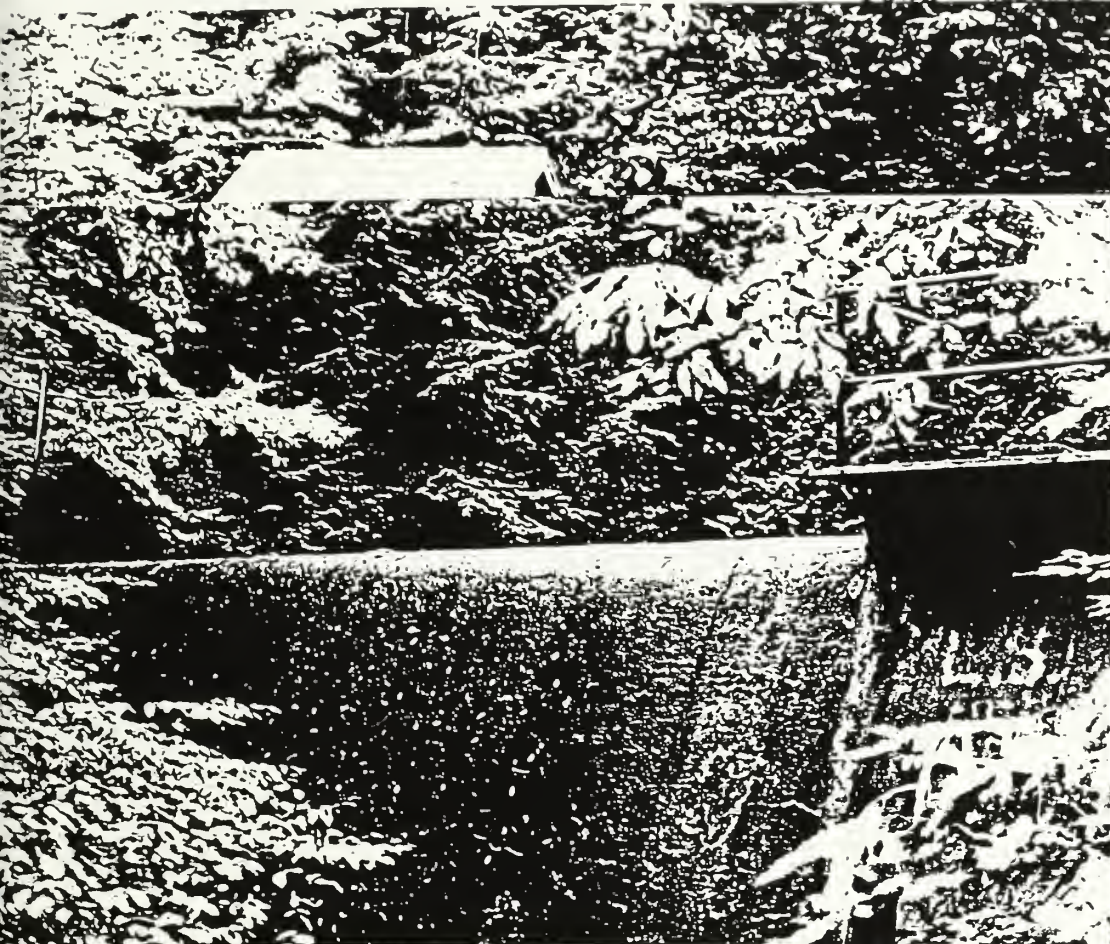
[ ]

Blandford/  
Woronoco

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell



or village) \_\_\_\_\_

end of Pine Hill Road

am

Public  Private

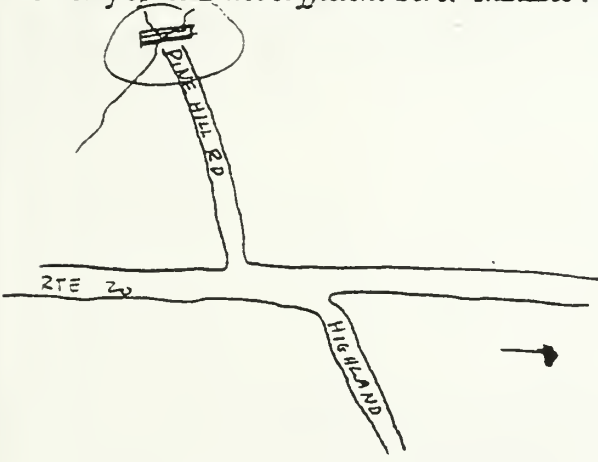
check one):

- powderhouse
- carousel
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

n 1910

ttton, local historian

including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) concrete

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage over 1 acre

Setting At very end of road, reached by

footpath

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date 29 November 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

The Pine Hill Road dam is a concrete structure which crosses the Black Brook in Russell. Approximately fifteen feet in height and forty feet across, the poured concrete structure includes a concrete gate house on its upper level. The gable roofed gatehouse is approximately four feet wide, five feet deep, and seven feet high. The crest of the dam incorporates a steel railed deck which allows access to the gatehouse, and is reached by a steel ladder from the path which leads to the dam. The dam capstone does not extend completely across it, creating a spillway for water control. The pond formed by the dam is under an acre in size and is surrounded by fir and hardwood trees. In comparison to the Cobble Mountain Reservoir dams, this is a very small structure, however, it relates closely to the dam on Potash Brook on the Blandford Road (Route 23).

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Pine Hill Road dam was built in 1910 by the Town of Russell to provide its first community water supply. Prior to that date, private wells were the source of water for Russell residents, but by 1910, Russell, as was the case with many of the Commonwealth's towns, was ready to provide a public water system. Unlike many communities, however, Russell had enough woodland to provide an adequate watershed within the town boundaries and several streams suitable for damming, so it was able to provide the water for its new system independent of its neighboring towns. Although it is no longer the sole source of water for the town, the dam and pond continue to operate to supply water to the town.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Alice Britton, local historian, interview.  
Atlas of 1894.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria S: form.

[Empty box for Assessor's Sheets]

Blandford  
Woronoco

[Empty boxes for Area Letter and Form Numbers in Area]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

of Area Westfield River Paper Company

nt Use Industrial

struction Dates or Period c. 1880s-39

ll Condition fair

Intrusions and Alternations Loading dock,

multiple additions to all buildings post 19343

ge c. 95 acres

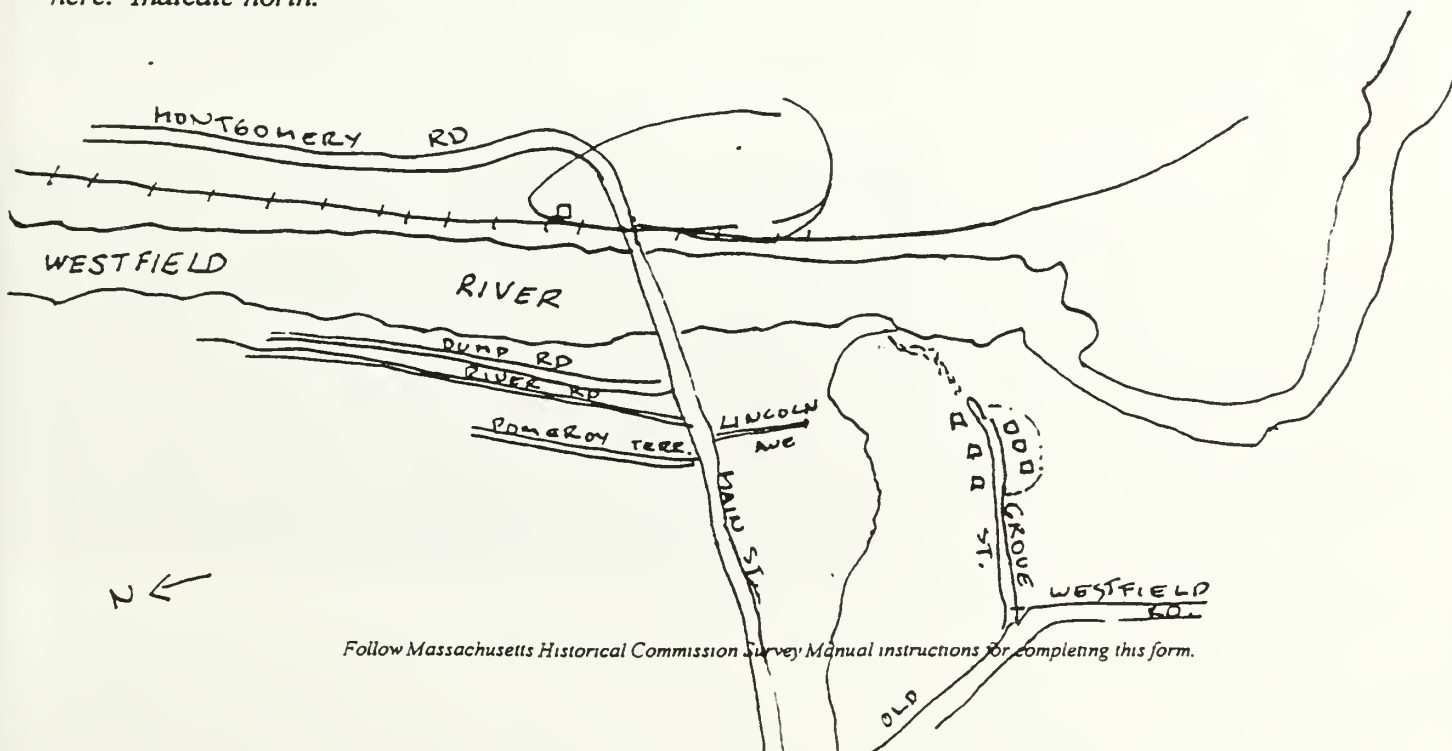
Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) Nov., 1993

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.



## AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION XX  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

The buildings of the former Westfield River Paper Company are situated across from Russell Center on the east bank of the Westfield River, and just east of the railroad tracks. The buildings are widely spaced, and oriented to the rail tracks rather than Montgomery Road, which crosses the river on a bridge. The Office, [#1] built c. 1913-16, is 1 story high under a side gable roof with a front gable element of 1 1/2 stories set at the plane of the facade. The shingled building has a small entry portico, paired or triple windows with 6/1 sash, and the distinctive Craftsman style exposed rafters. A tall brick 2 story element has been added at the side.

The Manufacturing Building [#2] appears to be composed of many individual structures of varying age linked together. Constructed of brick, frame and concrete block, they are one and two stories in height, and utilitarian in design. Parts of the structure may date from the last quarter of the 19th century, but is difficult to determine which they may be. (Continued)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE XX  *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

In the early 1880s O. W Norcross of Worcester and his brother built the Blandford Brick and Tile Company on this site. It had been operated in Blandford. The company produced brick for the addition to the State House in Boston and for the Springfield Theater building. Charcoal kilns on the site produced fuel for the brick kilns. When the owners were unable to procure clay locally, it was sold to Samuel G. Otis, who built a dam here. A fire in a kiln ultimately destroyed part of the plant, and it was sold to the Russell Falls Paper Company c. 1913, and then to the Westfield River Paper Company in 1916. In 1920 the company was purchased by the Moore family, who ran it successfully for many years.

The mill produced glassine paper from 1913, after Folke Becker and his brother came to this country from Sweden to produce their invention. Glassine, a near transparent paper resistant to the passage of air and grease is widely used in packaging food. The company prospered with the development of packaged foodstuffs after World War II, expanding in 1931 and '39. (Continued)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Mason, Louise, "Olive Winn", in Stone Walls, Spring, 1989.

"History of the Town of Russell", Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942.

MHC, Reconnaissance Survey: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



Russell 35 - 52 Montgomery Rd.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s)	Form No.



Office (#1)



Manufacturing  
Building (#2)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property Address

Russell

Montgomery Road

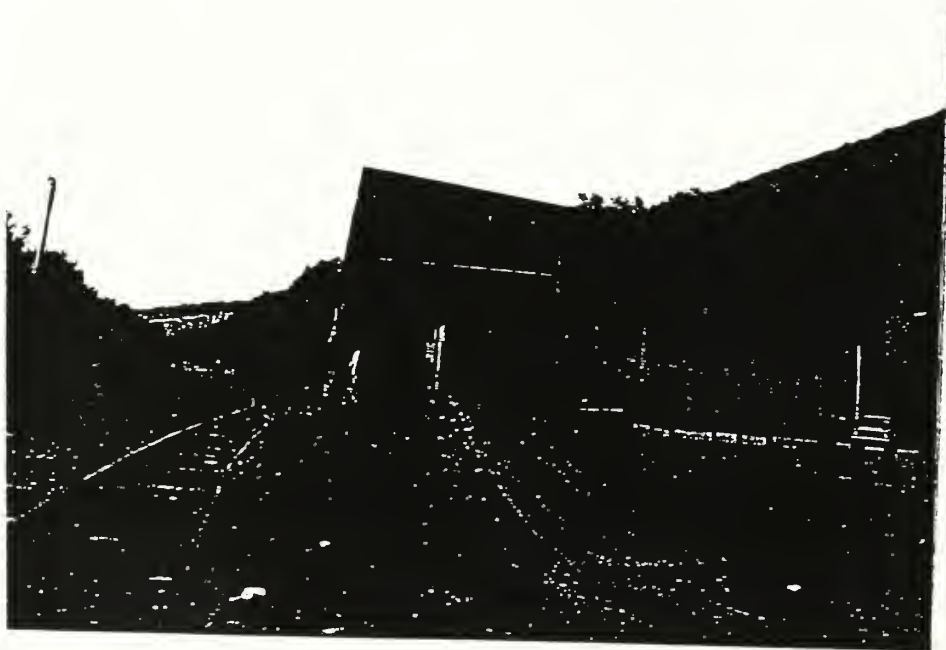
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

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#3 Storage Shed



#4 Loading Dock

Westfield River Paper Company Area Data Sheet

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Historic Name/Feature</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Property Type</u>
	1.	Office	c. 1913-16	Craftsman	B
	2.	Manufacturing Building	c. 1880s-1939	Utilitarian	B
	3.	Storage Shed	c. 1962	Utilitarian	B
	4.	Loading Dock	c. 1962	Utilitarian	Str.

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property Address

RUSSELLCARRINGTON RD.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

--	--

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

A tall, one story frame Storage Shed [#3] is end gable in form and utilitarian in design. It has a minimum of decorative detail.

A Loading Dock [#4] c. 1962 is located parallel to a spur off the rail tracks. Constructed of vertical wood siding and set on concrete blocks, it has a long ramp to access the interior.

## HISTORIC NARRATIVE (Continued)

The firm was important in the growth of Russell Center in the 1920s and 30s. It built new company housing on the site of the Blandford Brick and Tile Co. company housing in "the Grove", now Grove Street. A swing footbridge bridge was built across the Westfield River at the end of Grove Street to give the workers a short cut to work and home. For some years the mill operated two shifts a day. It was family run and was thought to have been good to its employees. In 1973 the mill was sold to Simpkins Industries. In 1992 the mill continued to manufacture glassine papers for such products as Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and Ritz Crackers. Originally dependent on rail transportation for its shipping, although the tracks run by its doors, the firm no longer relies on freight trains to ship its goods.

FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

9-2-2

USGS Quad

Blandford  
 Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number



or village) Crescent Mills

1172 Huntington Rd.

Mill Cemetery

Public  Private

Number of Stones 6-7

18317

Sketch Map

Draw or duplicate a map of the area showing the properties location in relation to geographic features and nearby cross streets. Indicate all buildings or features within and surrounding the inventoried property. Indicate North.



Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Between two former mill houses  
on major throughfare of mill village.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date (month/day/year) 10/5/1993

## BURIAL GROUND FORM

### VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe landscape features, gravestone materials, designs, motifs, and symbols that are either common or unusual. Note any known carvers.*

This private burial ground is approximately 12' x 12', and enclosed by an iron fence, probably erected in the mid to late 19th century. It is located in a residential area on the major street in a mill village.

The burial ground contains about 6 stones, though because of the deteriorated state of the carving it is not possible to determine whether they are full-head or foot stones. Those which, because of their size, are clearly head stones are of the tabernacle form, and of granite. Images of urns and weeping willows are carved at the top of several stones. The only clearly legible stone seems to be dated 1831.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain religious affiliations, major period of use, and evaluate historical association of this burial ground with the community.*

This was the private family cemetery of the Gould family. John Gould kept a store and grist mill in Crescent Mills, about where the mills are presently located from c. 1806. He was Selectman in 1808, 1814, 1815, 1820-25, 1827, 1830, 1831-32 and 1838.

The mill village which grew up around the paper mill of Chapin and Gould from 1853 was built around the tiny burial ground.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Gritton, Alice, Notes on Historic Cemeteries, unpublished.  
History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, c. 1879.

Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-2-2

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

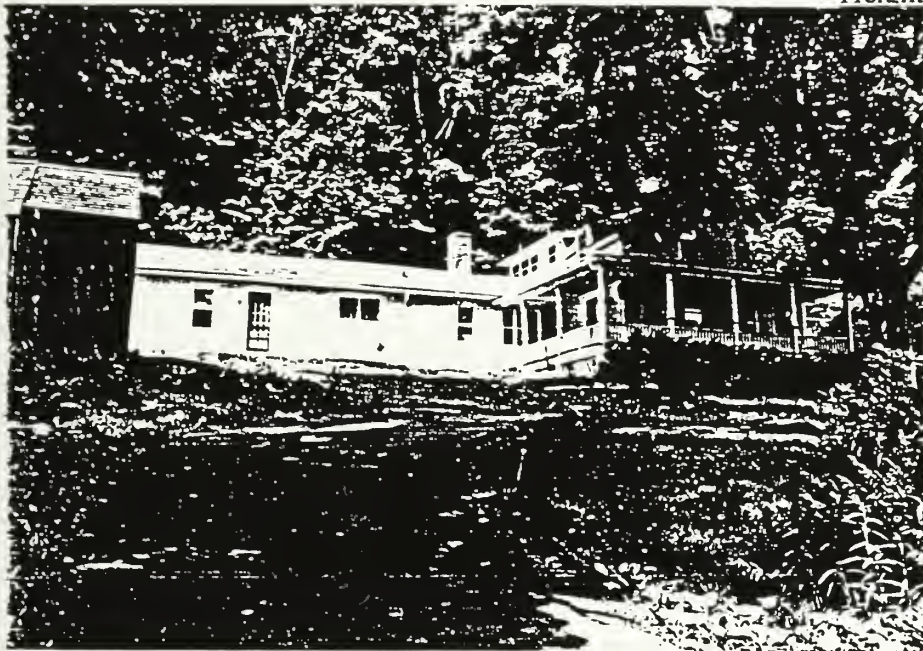
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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Heights



s 530 General Knox Road

Name  

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction 1837

Pitoniak, p. 10

Form Greek Revival

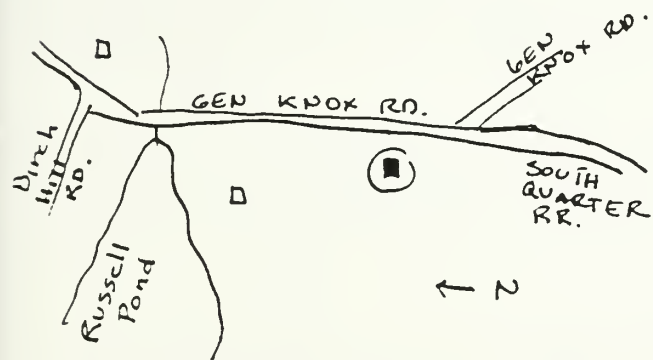
Architect/Builder  

Exterior Material:  

Paint not visible

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Equipment shed

(1930), Blacksmith shed

Major Alteration (with dates)  

porch added c. 1900

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date  

Acreage Approximately 6 acres

Setting Set on hillside above the road,

surrounded by woodland

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story cottage turns its gable end toward the street, as was common in the Greek Revival period. The house is an unusual four bays wide, with the entry on the south facing facade. A one story ell on south side may be in part original or at least an early addition; a similar ell is shown on the map of 1894. The shed roof and gabled dormers are later additions. Typical of the Greek Revival style is the wide frieze at the cornice, corner pilasters to resemble the applied pillars of a Greek temple, eaves returns, 6/6 sash, an interior chimney on the main block, and another in the ell. The outbuildings are evidence of the original land use as a farm. The porch is a late 19th or early 20th century addition. When the porch was installed, the original elaboration around the front door must have been destroyed.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built on the site of one of the first houses in what is now Russell, the John Grey house of 1737. Bradford Palmer bought it in 1837 and built this house near the old one, which he demolished. A blacksmith shop standing near the house, perhaps the first in Russell, was moved to South Quarter Road in 1900. Palmer was a member of one of Russell's earliest families of settlers.

At the end of the 18th century when Russell was settled by pioneers, the area around Hazzard, now Russell Pond was the focus of settlement which finally shifted to Russell Center only after the opening of the Western Railway in 1841. Evidence of the relative density of settlement are the number of 19th century school houses in this southern part of town: there was a school just south of this house at the intersection of General Knox Trail and South Quarter Road as late as 1894, and on the map of 1870 there were two schools on South Quarter Road, the one just mentioned and another closer to Blandford, and a third was located on Blandford Road at the head of General Knox Road.

In 1670 a trail ran from Blandford to Westfield. The General Knox Trail, part of this road, is so named because this was the route over which the General brought the cannon captured at Ticonderoga to help General Washington raise the siege of Boston in 1776. In 1829 the road was improved as the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831

Map, 1870.

Richards, L.L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Springfield, 1894.

MHC, MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Pitoniak, Stephen J., Sr., Western Massachusetts History, Westfield, 1970.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location Gen. Knox/South Quarter  
Roads  
General Knox Marker

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Object (check one):

- statue  monument
- milestone
- group composition  marker
- religious shrine  bust
- boundary marker
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Construction 1927

Source marker

Designer/Sculptor \_\_\_\_\_

Materials Cranite/bronze

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

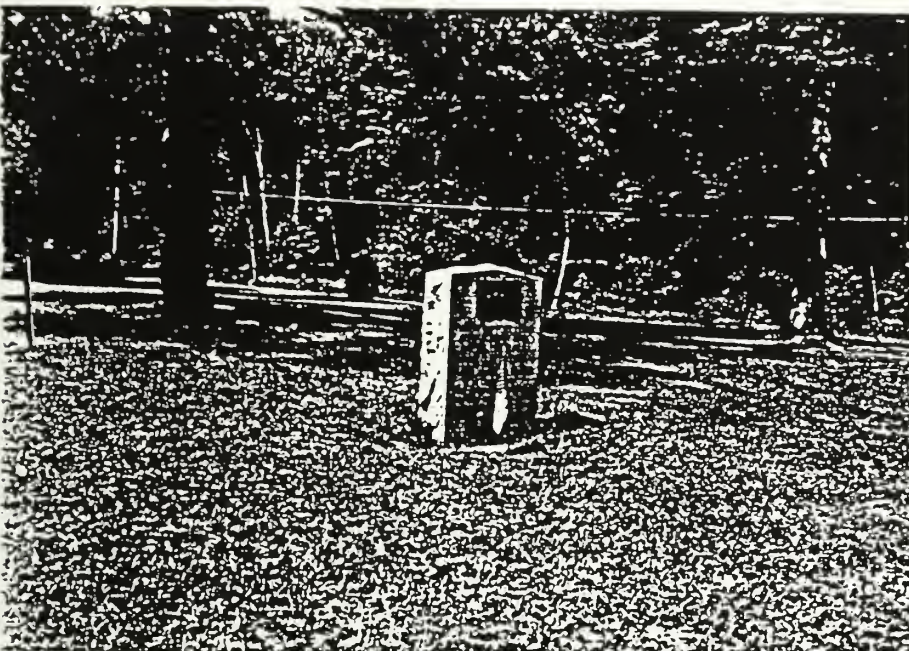
Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting At crossroads of two country  
roads, in open, grassy spot.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Pars

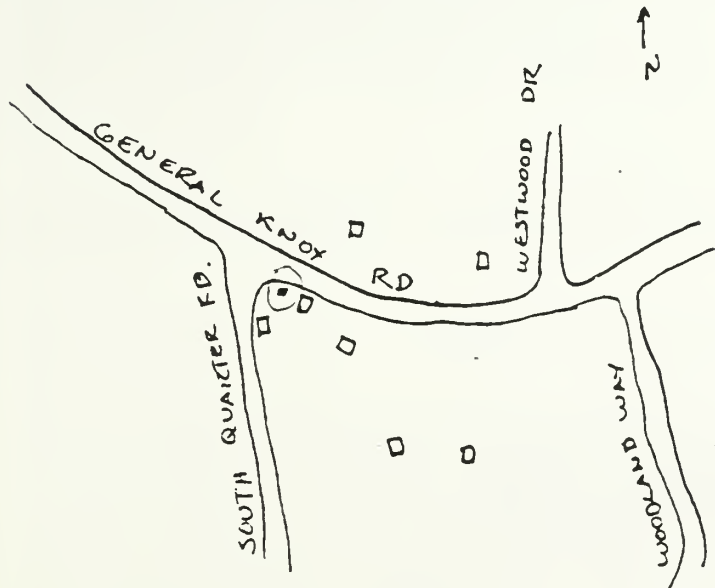
Organization FWPC

Date (month/year) June, 1993



Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the object's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between object and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried object. Indicate north.



## OBJECT FORM

DESIGN ASSESSMENT  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe design features of the object, and evaluate in terms of other similar types of objects within the community..*

This marker is one of two nearly identical stones in Russell. Made of granite, the approximately 3 feet high by 2 feet wide marker is smooth on both faces and rough or stone faced on the sides and top. A bronze plaque set above the inscription depicts in relief a scene of an ox drawn cart carrying General Knox's cannon. The marker is located at an old crossroads in a grassy spot in a residential node.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the object, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

On January 13, 1776, General Knox and his men passed by this spot and spent the night in Westfield. The general was engaged in hauling the artillery captured at Fort Ticonderoga in New York State to Cambridge, Massachusetts to help General Washington raise the siege of Boston. This is one of a series of markers placed in every community through which passed on his route. The Revolutionary army men were given a rousing welcome by the villagers, who set off a 24 pound cannon." [Pitoniak, p. 8]

This part of route was a narrow trail running from Westfield to Blandford in 1670. It became part of the Albany Turnpike running from Boston through Westfield, Russell, Blandford, Otis to Albany in 1775. An important stage route for the town, by 1810 there were three stages per day, and by 1827 there were six lines of stages carrying perhaps 45 passengers per day running between Boston and Albany.

In January, 1976 as part of Bi-centennial celebrations, General Knox's arduous winter task was reenacted with participation by the communities along the route. One man from Russell made the cold but historic trek.

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION *(if applicable)*:

"Through this place passed General Henry Knox in the winter of 1775-1776 to deliver to Gen. George Washington at Cambridge the train of artillery from Fort Ticonderoga used to force the British arm to evacuate Boston".

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Pitoniak, Stephen J, Sr., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area, Westford, 1970.

Beneway, sketches and text, from files of Alice Britton.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

[Empty box for Assessor's Sheets]

Blandford  
Woronoco

[Empty boxes for Area Letter and Form Numbers in Area]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (*neighborhood or village*) \_\_\_\_\_

Crescent Mills

f Area Crescent Mills

Use Industrial and residential

uction Dates or Period c. 1838-1932

Condition fair

Intrusions and Alternations \_\_\_\_\_

32 additions to mill, 1133 Huntington Rd.

e originally c 180 acres, now c. 20 acres

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

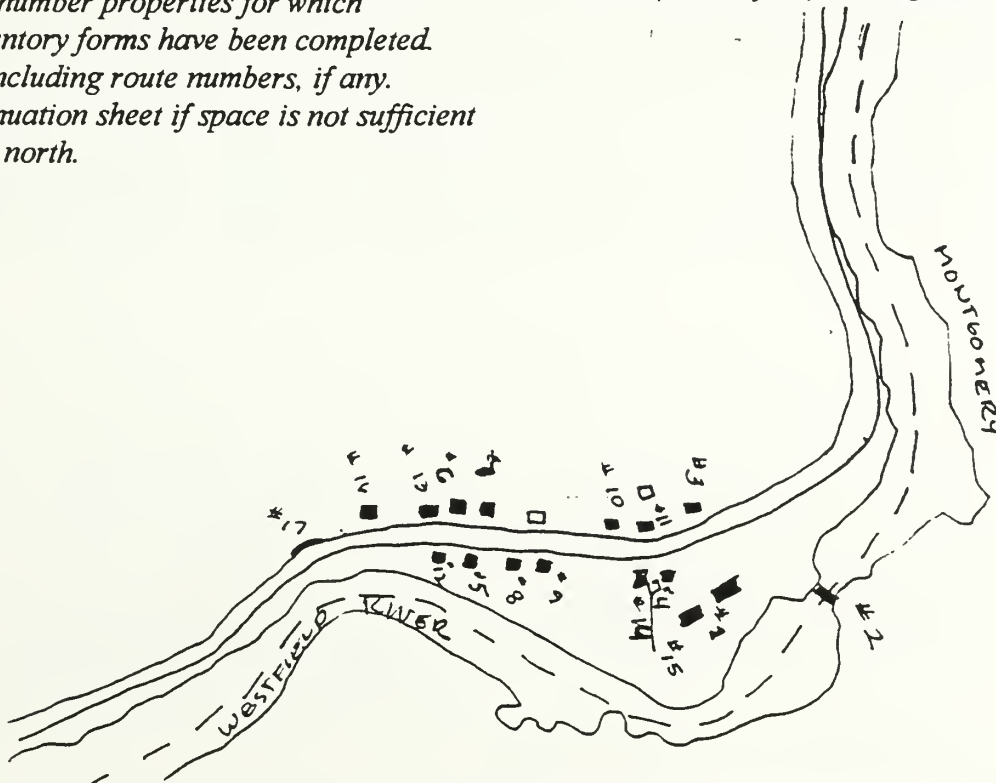
Organization PVPC

Date (*month/year*) August, 1993



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.



## AREA FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

Crescent Mills is a small mill village constructed on the west bank of the Westfield River just south of the falls where the river flows in a great southeast bend or crescent through a narrow valley. The village is located above the river bed and laid out in a linear fashion along both sides of the north/south highway called here Huntington Road, now Route 20. The mill and 1932 school are brick, all former housing is of frame construction.

The former **Chapin and Gould paper mill** [#1] is located at the north end of the village between the east side of the road and the river. Constructed of red brick on the site of the plant's burned 1858 buildings, the two 1870 red brick buildings which form the core of the complex have their gable roofs laid out parallel to the river. The three story block may incorporate some of the original masonry such as the dressed random laid granite block walls of the first floor. The buildings are characterized by arched window heads with 12/12 sash, dentiled cornices and brownstone sills. Modern one story additions girt the buildings, including a 2 story aluminum tower (1968-69). A turbine powered by the vertical 45-50 foot drop from the dam is located in the lower part of the upstream building. The buildings retain a great deal of their historic design, although additions over the years obscure their original appearance and some of the 1870 buildings have been demolished. (Continued)

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

The Crescent Falls of the Westfield River have been an industrial site since c. 1806 when a grist mill owned by a Mr. Stowell, and John Gould and 1818 a small cotton mill owned by Thomas Frye located here. The opening of the Western Railway in 1841, (later the Boston and Albany), made possible modern production here. Elijah Smith of Lee and Cyrus W. Field of Springfield purchased the mill. Field is said to have invested his earnings from its sale in the laying of the first trans-Atlantic cable. In 1858 Henry A. Gould and Charles C. Chapin of Springfield bought the mill and water rights and constructed new paper mill buildings and a new dam. A fire in 1870 burnt the original plant, and these buildings were built immediately thereafter "of a much larger capacity than the first". [History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, p. 1100] In the 1870s the mill employed about 100 people producing fine writing and ledger papers. By c. 1885 the complex had expanded to about five major buildings. A boarding house, a collection of tenements and a school lined the single main road to Huntington. Chapin and Gould were seen as progressive, installing the best paper making machinery and constructing a well maintained village for their employees. A power plant was built for the mill and electricity was extended to the village at the same time. Continued

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Michael Winn interview

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L.-Richards and Co., Springfield, , 1894.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, c. 1879

Kites, C. L. , "Pioneer Paper Mill Goes Modern", Springfield Sunday Union and Republican, Sept. 2, 1945.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Russell

Crescent Mills

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A **dam**, [#2] located at a falls of the Westfield River at a deep bend, is S shaped in form. It is constructed of stone faced granite blocks with wooden flash boards along the top. The western side is edged with concrete.

The earliest residential building is the c. 1838 Henry Gould House at **1185 Huntington Rd.** [#3] One of Russell's four or five high style Greek Revival houses, it is fine example of the style, though now burdened with unsympathetic recent additions. Two and 1/2 stories high under a gable roof turned to make a temple front form, the L shaped building has wide corner pilasters with Doric capitals, long 6/6 windows and a particularly finely detailed door surround composed of a paneled architrave surround with corner blocks and an overlarge central block.

Probably the earliest of the mill housing, c. 1850s, is **1172 Huntington Road**, [#4] although it is difficult to accurately date due to the absence of stylistic details. The former boarding house is 9 bays long and 2 stories high under a side gabled roof whose returns make a gable field pediment. Three interior chimneys evenly divide the ridge line. A front porch across the entire street has been filled. A few original 6/6 windows remain. The 12 bay house at **1114 Huntington Road** [#5] has a similar, though wider, form, and probably was built in the 1880s. Three of the four original interior chimneys remain. A centrally placed gabled former, and a late Queen Anne porch across the facade with turned porch posts are among the simple architectural details.

Much of the mill housing was built at about the same time and to a single pattern, perhaps between c. 1890 and 1920. The two family houses, like the earlier company housing, are two stories high with a side gable roof and the long side oriented to the road. The main feature of these houses at **1107, 1119, 1126, 1136, 1157 and 1167 Huntington Road** [#s 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11] is the long central shed roofed dormer set in the plain of the facade. Some of the front porches have been filled, but the distinctive form remains distinctive of the mill built standard.

The house at **1104 Huntington Road**, [#12] like that at across the street at **1099 Huntington Road**, [#13] does not conform to either of these patterns. Both are L-shaped single family dwellings the former, built c. 1875, is 2 stories high and hints at the Italianate style with its high brick foundations, deep returns and high proportions: the later more modest 1 1/2 story cottage has few stylistic details.

The one story brick **school house, 1166 Huntington Road**, [#14] was built in 1932 in the Colonial Revival style. The long side of its gable roof is oriented along the road, but its entry is through an inset corner porch on the south elevation gable end. On this elevation are the major decorative elements, a triple window with a cast stone lintel on the Palladian theme, a triplet of windows in the gable field, and an oversized transom, now empty. Windows are 8/1. Although reused for commercial purposes, much of the interior is intact.

A small **Cemetery** i[#15] s located between the former school house and 1172 Huntington Road. Surrounded by a fence composed of granite posts and cast iron rails, the small rectangular plot is filled with a very few graves which are marked by granite headstones and a few stones which may be footstones or mark infants' graves. All are badly weathered and their legends illegible; most are in the tabernacle form. One stone retains the outline of a weeping willow.

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Crescent Mills

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### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A retaining wall [#17] of random coursed granite fieldstones is located on the west side of Huntington Road on the south end of the village. Built in 1905 by the Western Massachusetts Street Railway Line, it is a fine example of the excellence of the engineering work completed by the company. A similar wall remains in Woronoco.

### HISTORICAL NARRATION (Continued)

The mill was one of Russell's major employers, and the reason for the development of Crescent Mills village. In the last quarter of the 19th century and until World War I, the village was a tight knit community, sporting a baseball team, and producing locally created theatricals.

The mill was family run, and a year before the death of Charles L. Chapin, son of the founder, the firm went into bankruptcy. The bank foreclosed the mortgage in 1936. In 1939 the complex was leased to the Du Pont Company to produce Texon, a latex saturated paper product used in a variety of goods such as shoe innersoles and synthetic leather. Wartime shortages of leather caused the synthetic leather industry to prosper. Du Pont purchased the mill complex in 1944 but not the housing, which was sold off.

The plant continued to be operated by Du Pont until it was purchased by a group of employees in 1947. Renamed Texon, it employed 47 people at its inception, but afterwards grew rapidly. It expanded this complex and opened other plants in Holyoke, Chicopee Falls, Westfield and France. Competition and the development of plastics caused a decline in sales and economic instability in the 1980s and 90s.

The first school in the village was held in a building owned by the mill, another, shown on the map of 1870 was located in the house at 1181 Huntington Road [#16]. This may have been the school which was closed when the students were sent to Russell Center, then reopened and rebuilt to two stories, perhaps in 1873 when a research note suggests that a new school was built in the community. In 1915 the Town bought and improved the current schoolhouse, and in 1932 the school building at 1166 Huntington Road [#14] was erected.

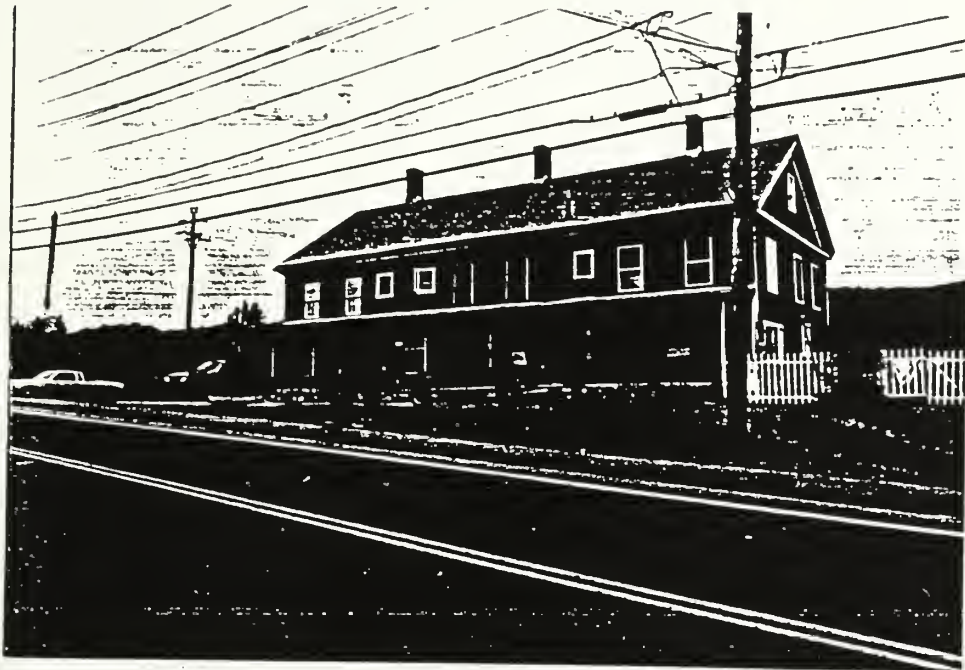
In 1905 The Western Massachusetts Street Railroad line opened a trolley line from Westfield to Huntington along Huntington Road with R. D. Gillett as president of the company. The project engineers were required to solve complex and difficult problems: huge rock ledge, steep grades and sheer mountainsides. This retaining wall at a "bad corner" is evidence of the craftsmanship with which the project was completed. The line made travel to Westfield and Springfield cheap and efficient, and broadened the social, economic and educational opportunities of the Crescent Mills community. The line closed in 1926.

The mill, the first of the three paper mills in Russell, pioneered the production of paper in the town. The village that grew up around it is a nearly intact reminder of the 19th century company owned towns of the area. Here the labor force lived and worked in mill owned property.

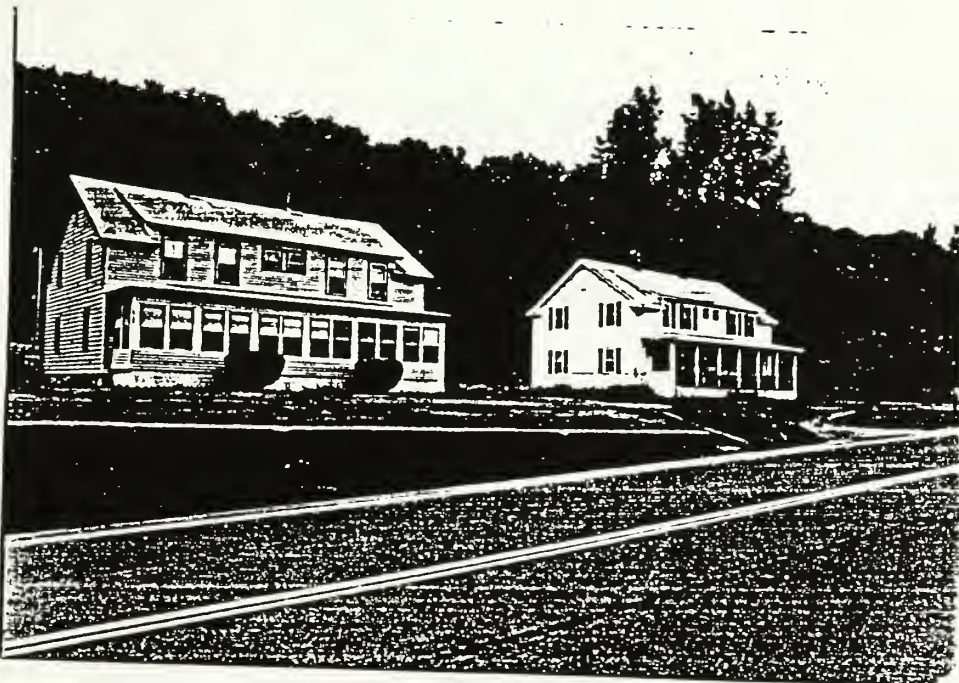
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Area(s) Form No.

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1172 Huntington Rd.  
(#4)



1119 and 1107  
Huntington Rd.  
(#s 7 & 6)

Russell

Crescent Mills

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
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Area(s)	Form No.



1166 Huntington Rd.  
(#14)

Cemetery (#15)  
at rear



Huntington Rd.  
Embankment  
(#17)



Crescent Mills Area Data Sheet

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Historic Name/Feature</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Property Type</u>
1.		Chapin and Gould mill	1870- c.1940	19th Cent. Indust.	B
2.		Dam	1858-19?	Utilitarian	Str.
3.		1185 Huntington Rd.	c. 1838- 58	Greek Revival	B
4.		1172 Huntington Rd.	c. 1850s	Greek Revival	B
5.		1114 Huntington Rd.	c. 1880s	Queen Anne	B
6.		1107 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
7.		1119 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
8.		1126 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
9.		1136 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
10.		1157 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
11.		1167 Huntington Rd.	c. 1890-1920	Colonial Revival	B
12.		1104 Huntington Rd.	c. 1860s	Italianate	B
13.		1099 Huntington Rd.	c. 1880	Utilitarian	B
14.		1166 Huntington Rd.	1932	Colonial Revival	B

Crescent Mills Area Data Sheet Continued

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Historic Name/Feature</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Property Type</u>
15.		Cemetery	c. 1850s-80		Cem.
16.		1181 Huntington Rd.	c. 1860s	Italianate	B
17.		Retaining Wall	1905-05	Utilitarian	Str.



## AREA FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community*

The Strathmore mill complex is located in the village of Woronoco on the banks of the Westfield River. Mill #1, the Warehouse, Power Station and Hydroelectric Plant are located on the west bank; a bridge spanning the rocky river at a narrow point, forms a part of Bridge Street; two dams are located just upriver from the mill complex on either side of a rocky island, and Mill #2 and Steam Plant are located on the west bank.

Mill # 1, [#1] was erected in 1873. It is constructed of red brick with brownstone trim and gabled slate roofs. Apparently originally a U shaped building of 3 1/2 and 2 1/2 stories divided by fire walls, major blocks were added in brick: an 18 bay, gable roof block with stair tower along the river in 1888 (N); a one story block with arched openings and exposed rafters along Woronoco Road in 1889 (N); a small building, possibly originally separated from the main complex in 1904 (S); a small addition to the south elevation of the 1873 northern wing containing the present entry with trabeated surround (1904); a four story block with 8/8 and 12/12 sash in 1907 (S); a square block with stair tower joining the 1904 building to the original 1873 block in 1909 (S); and a four bay, two story block on the rear wall of the 1904 block in 1935 (SE).

The original building was designed in the vernacular industrial late Italianate style. Its construction is typical of late 19th century mill building. Fire walls divide the three original wings, which also contained, by 1891, a sprinkling system and fireproof doors. The building has corbelling at the cornice and segmental arched windows with six over nine sash and brownstone sills. A crenellated corner tower stands at the complex's south end. .  
(Continued)

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

The mill is located at the falls of the Westfield River called Salmon Falls in the early 19th century, because their height prevented salmon from swimming upriver. Native American burials have been found in the area, suggesting that they made seasonal visits to the rich fishing site, if not permanent settlement here. Settled by Colonial farmers in the late 18th century, the area grew slowly. By 1870 the small hamlet contained a fishing pole factory, several saw mills on the Potash Brook and a few houses.

The core of the mill dates from 1872-73 when Westfield paper manufacturers Charles A. Jessup and George L. Laflin, with \$150,000 capital, built an 18 foot high granite dam at Salmon Falls, the mill and several multifamily dwellings for workers. The paper mill was the second to be built in Russell on the Westfield River, and in 1880 the two mills employed 241 people. The 1000 acre property including the dam, water rights and mill were purchased in the 1880s by the Vernon Brothers who enlarged the boiler room. (Continued)

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L. Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Springfield, 1894.

Richards, Atlas of Hampden Co., Richards Map Co., Springfield, 1912. (Continued)

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Russell

Strathmore Hills

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

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## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Mill #1 is connected by a pedestrian bridge at the third story level across the street to a four story warehouse. Essentially intact, the complex has had several windows filled, and post 1947 construction in concrete block

The Warehouse [#2], also late 19th century industrial vernacular, has the typical eight light hopper sash of the period set in shallow arched openings. The brick building is nine by two and three bays wide. It has brownstone sills and shallow end gable roof. Three sliding track wood warehouse doors are located next to a shallow arched entry on east or street elevation. The clapboard penthouse has a flat bracketed roof.

A small Power Station [#3] is located on the west bank of the Westfield River close to the bridge. The red brick building is one story high under a flat roof. The three bay facade is articulated by piers, which flank the center entrance with original double doors and a deep 12 light transom. A corbelled cornice and corbelling over the inset windows are decorative features of the building.

The Hydro Electric Station (1904) [#4], is located on the west river bank slightly above water level but well below the level of the village. Constructed of red brick, it is organized in basilica form, with a front gable taller section flanked by two lower flat roofed sections. It is supported on high, battered concrete foundations which are pierced by an arch allowing water to run through the structure. The asymmetrical facade is articulated by broad piers into unequal bays, the last of which is fitted for a large metal pipe which extends from the facade up the bank. Tall segmental arched windows with multi-pane sash, a corbelled cornice and tall smoke stack are typical features of industrial buildings at the turn of the century. Power was generated with the help of water flowing from above the dam through an eleven foot penstock to the turbines. The building was extensively damaged in the flood of 1938, but was rebuilt in 1939.

The Bridge, (c. 1915) [#5], is an early concrete example. Three arches support the two lane roadbed. A concrete rail articulated by piers encloses the road.

Mill #2 [#6] was constructed in 1913. The large, originally U shaped building has been repeatedly enlarged: in 1919 and 1920-21, was probably partly remodeled in the 1940s and had another large, unsympathetic metal clad addition in recent times. However, it retains much of its design integrity. Constructed of poured in place concrete with very large multiple industrial sash as curtain walls between the concrete piers, (now frequently filled), the building has both flat and monitor roofs. A trabeated entry in concrete may be original.

South of Mill #2 and adjacent to it is the Steam Power and Filter Plant [#7]. Constructed with Mill #2, it is a small structure organized in three blocks. The building is distinguished by a very tall smokestack of yellow brick with the name Strathmore picked out in dark brick.

Russell

Strathmore Mills

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
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Area(s) Form No.

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### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Two Dams [#8A and B] span the Westfield River at the falls above a mid-river island and a rocky outcropping. Because the river turns to flow east over the falls, the dams are aligned in a north/south direction. The original, northern dam may have been constructed in 1872-73 and repaired repeatedly thereafter. The southernmost was constructed in 1939 and designed by B. F. Rose of the Charles T. Main engineering firm. It was constructed after a September, 1938 flood damaged the original dam and cut a new channel through the river. It is built of steel reinforced poured concrete.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (Continued)

In 1887-88 Roswell Fairfield of Holyoke bought the property. Fairfield greatly expanded the mill, rising the height of the north wing and demolishing a small block to add two new wings to the 1873 north end; building a stone depot for the Boston and Albany rail service, a two span iron bridge across the Westfield River and a house and race track at the present location of Strathmore Park.

By 1890 the company employed workers 700. The Richards Atlas of 1894 shows that the hamlet had expanded: the paper mill, erecting several buildings, including an envelope shop on the site of the present warehouse and additional tenement houses. The hamlet supported a school, and Crosby's hotel on the southern end of town. This was joined by a mansarded inn just north of the mill on the east side of Woronoco Road. At this time the hamlet was renamed Fairfield.

In 1896 the property was sold at sheriff's sale to Springfield banker John G. Mackintosh. Renamed the Woronoco Co, it was sold in 1904 to Horace Moses of West Springfield who owned the Mittleague Paper Company there. Under Moses' leadership, for the first time the mill became profitable. With the two other paper mills, it played a highly significant role in the economic life of Russell.

Moses (1862-1947) was born on a farm in upper New York state. As a young man he went to work for his uncle in the paper business in Agawam, rising to become a superintendent. He purchased his own mill in West Springfield in 1892: its success merited both its expansion and, in 1904, his purchase of the Woronoco Mill. In 1911 Moses united both mills under the name Strathmore, after an area in Scotland of which he was particularly fond. Moses pioneered the production of deckle edged paper, and developed many artist, specialty and fine writing and record papers as well as technical papers. He grew to become a very rich man and the company prospered, offering its workers steady employment.

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Russell Strathmore Villa

Area(s) Form No.

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HISTORIC NARRATIVE (Continued)

In 1904 the hydroelectric plant was constructed. It generated power for the mill, the mill village and houses along Blandford Road to Blandford. Moses continued to expand Mill #1, with additions in 1907, 09 and 1935. In 1913 he built the new Mill #2 across the river greatly expanding the company's production capacity. The company profited during both World Wars: in W.W.I the company produced the chart paper used by the Coast Survey and on which all Navy charts were printed, W.W.II saw the growth of blueprint paper sales.

The mill had an extensive social policy. It built and owned most of its worker's housing, renting apartments cheaply and keeping them in good condition. The firm built playgrounds, landscaped the village, provided electricity and maintained a hospital. An important aspect of Woronoco village life was the all inclusive social policy: there were men's and women's clubs and teams, children's activities and outings, dances and games. In 1929 the company constructed at a cost of \$170,000 a two story brick Community Building, (demolished in the early 1980s). It housed a gym, social clubs, youth activities and was used for church service, dances and movies.

Moses made important contributions to the larger community beyond the mill village. He was co-founder of Junior Achievement, Inc. and of the Eastern States Exposition, President of the Board of Trustees of Deerfield Academy and Trustee of Boston University and Wesleyan University, and Director of two local Y.M.C.A.s. He was particularly active trying to improve and revive declining local agriculture. He founded the Hampden County Improvement League to improve conditions of both the agricultural county and industrial cities.

After Moses' death in 1947, the company began to decline. It was sold to Hammersmith Paper Co. in 1962, which became a division of the International Paper Co. In 1993 the company shut down manufacturing at the Russell mill complex after 120 years of paper production.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Continued)

- Country Journal, "Strathmore Will Close Historic Woronoco Mill", Jan 14, 1993.  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey: Russell, Boston, 1982.  
Warner, Charles, ed., Picturesque Hampden, Picturesque Publishing Co., Northhampden, 1891.  
Higgins, Charles, Strathmorean: Fiftieth Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Strathmore Mills Area Data Sheet

Map #	Inventory #	Historic Name/Feature	Date of Construction	Style	Property Type
1.		Mill #1	1872-1990s	Vict. Util.	B
2.		Warehouse	1909-16	Vict. Util	B
3.		Power Station	c. 1913	Col. Rev.	B
4.		Hydro-Electric Station	1904	Vict. Util.	B
5.		Bridge	c. 1915		Str.
6.		Mill #2	1913	Early 20th Cent. Util.	B
7.		Steam Power & Filter Plant	1913	Early 20th. Cent. Util.	B
8A		Dam	1872 & rebuilt		Str.
8B		Dam	1939 & rebuilt		Str.

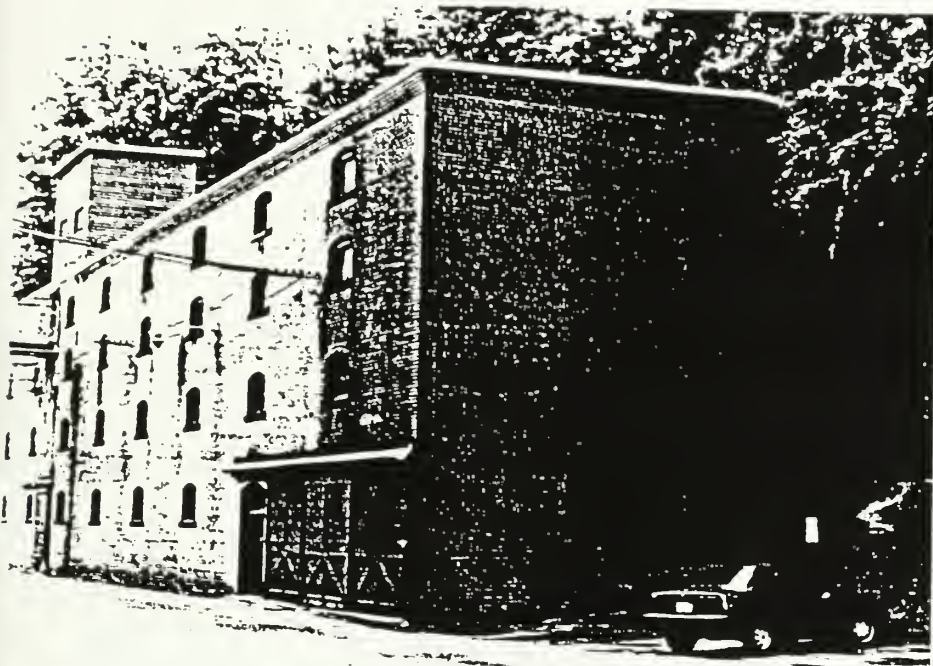


Russell 261 Woronoco Rd.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
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Area(s) Form No.

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Warehouse (#2)



Mill #2

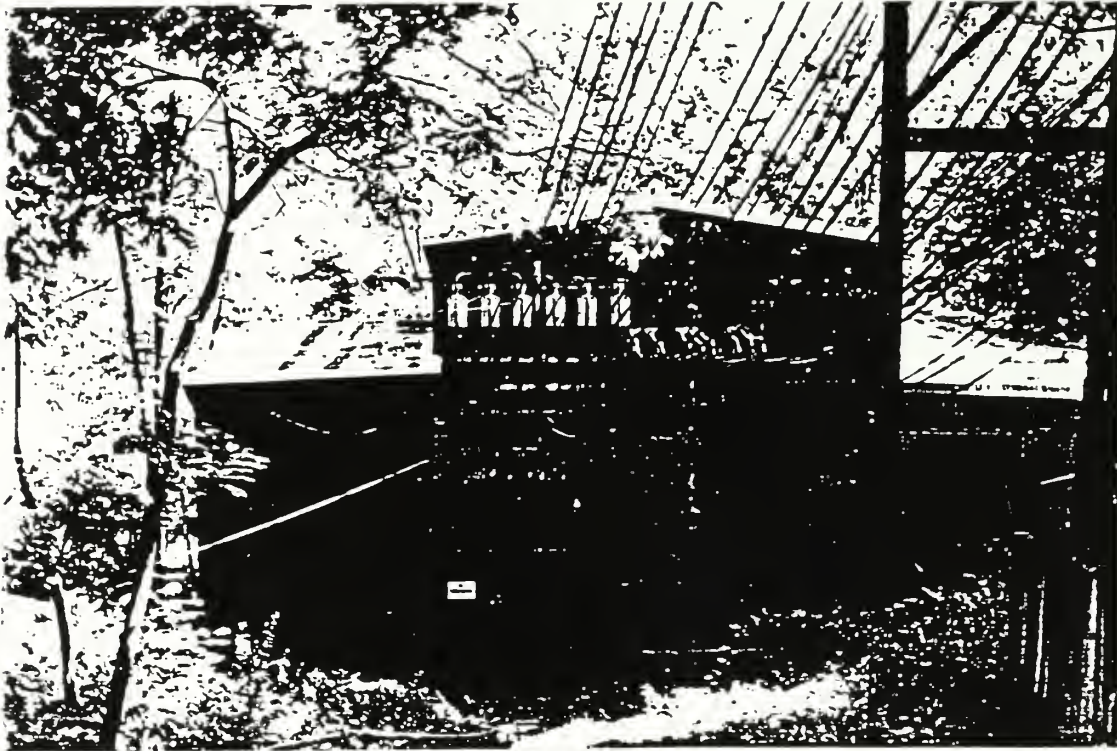
(#0)

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

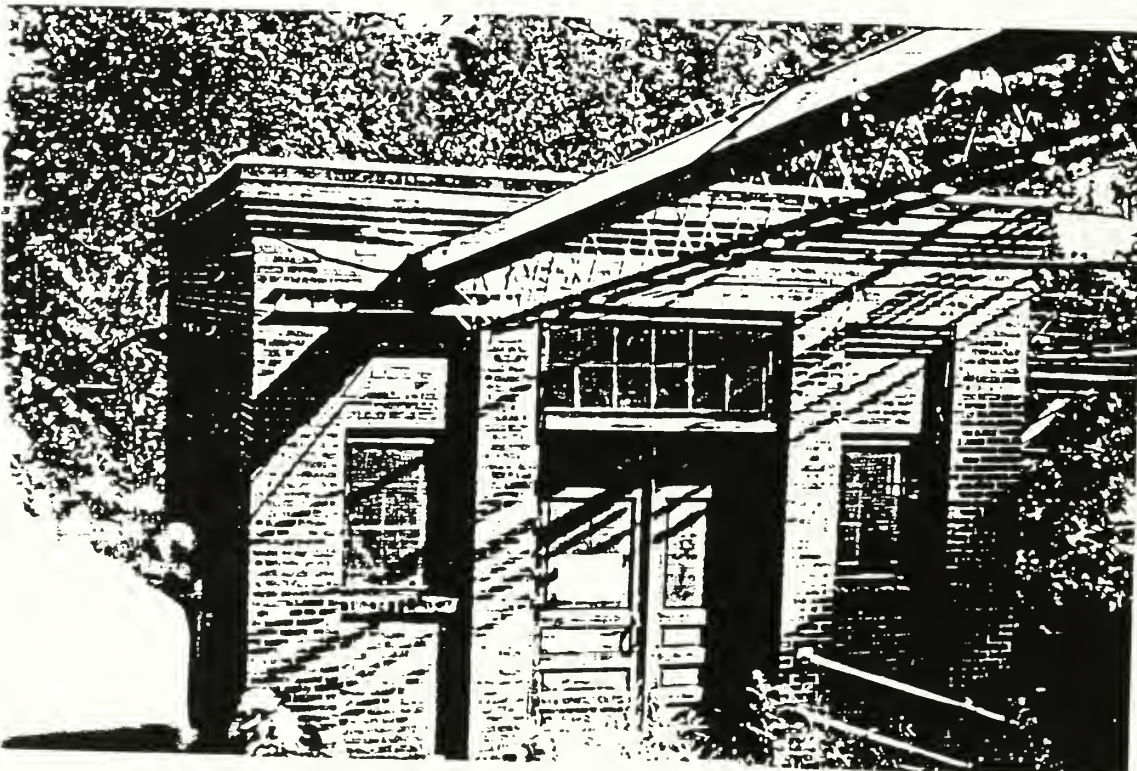
russell Strathmore Mills

Area(s) Form No.

--	--



Hydro-electric  
Station (#4)



Power Station  
(#3)

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s)	Form No.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

**The Manor House**, c. 1913, [#3] shows the elaboration of massing and interest in the individuation of spaces of the Queen Anne period, though its Craftsman style is similar to that developed by the west coast's Greene and Greene just a few years earlier. The long, low, 1 1/2 story shingle clad house is characterized by a mix of texture, shingle and fieldstone, and a complex layering of roof planes. The deep, side gable roof, which slants low over the first floor to be supported on a fieldstone pillar at the side is punctuated by a massive fieldstone chimney which helps to support an overhanging open, jerkin-head porch. It then sweeps down to cover the entry porch with a gable to mark the location of the front door. Extending the house on its east end are open porches on the ground and second floors covered by jerkin-head roofs supported on sturdy braces and surrounded, on the ground floor, by fieldstone kneewalls. The interior contains the original chestnut beams, some lighting fixtures and a quartz stone fireplace.

The house is very much a summertime cottage, rather than the family's formal residence. As such, it can afford to be forthrightly rustic, using indigenous materials and a rambling, informal plan. The design was modern, current, and a bold statement in the style of other wealthy industrialists who built the rustic "Adirondack" camps", though much smaller than theirs. In fact, when additional room was required, new structures were constructed rather than adding to the existing house.

The building now called the **Commissary**, c. 1913, [#1] was originally an apple storage facility. Surrounded by woods, its more subdued Craftsman style displays the characteristic jerkin-head roof and low profile. Its walls are cork-lined to protect the fruit.

The **Blacksmith Shop**, c. 1913, [#2] built as a milk room, was originally part of a much larger barn [11 on plan], demolished in 1991. It too is L shaped, with jerkin-head roof and exposed rafters.

The **Carriage Shop** [#4] was built about 1913. Raised on high, rough-cut fieldstone foundations, the end gable building's highly modeled and folded roof line is enlivened by a variety of forms and levels to break the edge: jerkin-heads, shed roofs and hooded roofs. Covering ground level openings are crosshatched barn motif panels. Banded triple windows are 6/6. A fieldstone chimney is placed at one end.

Built about 1913, nearly doubled in size in 1920 and remodeled in 1950, the **Training Lodge** [#5] was the Head Herdsman's house. Originally a 2 1/2 story structure whose front gable roof deeply overhang the facade, the building was replicated and the mirror image was joined to the original, making it double gabled. The gable fields are clad in vertical siding while the body is shingled. A c. 1950 portico signals the entry.

The **Duplex**, c. 1913, [#6] was renovated in 1924 as a boarding house for the farm hands, with quarters for a housekeeper on the ground floor. The 2 story building has a porch supported on fieldstone pilings across its front gable facade. Like all of the buildings, the roof is framed without returns, and like many, the gable field is picked out, here as a slight projection. Windows are paired, with 6/6 sash. (Continued)

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Located on the north side of the discontinued Birch Hill Road up a steep hill are two shingled guest cottages built about 1915. The westernmost Sachem Lodge [#7] is a 2 story, five bay building under a gable roof. Overlook Lodge [#8] is a 1 1/2 stories gable cottage with paired windows containing 6/6 sash and two porches, now filled. The simple structure is elaborated by gabled dormers. A freestanding garage is associated with the house.

An open air Amphitheater [L] is the site of a now demolished sheep barn [12 on plan], one of many buildings on the property which have been demolished due to poor repair. Among the more important of these are a Greenhouse [10 on plan], located to the south of the Manor House, the barn already mentioned, and Italian House [#9], located across the road from the Training Lodge.

The General Knox Marker [#13] is a low, rectangular granite monument with a brass plaque. It is sited in the front yard of the Manor House.

Cortis and Pendleton Roads [#14], are narrow, dirt surfaced ways. Before 1909 Pendleton Road connected Birch Hill Road to South Quarter Road, and Cortis Road connected it to Blandford and Dickenson Hill Roads.

The small Birch Hill Road or Russell Pond Cemetery [#15], is located between the north shore of Russell Pond and Birch Hill Road on a rolling piece of ground. It is enclosed by a recent chain link fence. Gravestones are aligned in fairly regular rows. Most of the stones are granite, with some limestone and brownstone, many in the tabernacle style. A Gothic Revival fence of cast and wrought iron encloses a family plot. At one corner of the cemetery is a wolf pit, now fenced and partly filled.

While we have, as yet, no good graphic evidence, the siting, landscaping and building conducted by the Boy Scouts since 1945 has not significantly diminished the integrity of the Moses estate plan, but it has, of course, made some inroads into the open space of the area.

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (*neighborhood or village*) \_\_\_\_\_

Woronoco Heights

of Area Woranoake Heights

at Use Boy Scouts' Camp

Construction Dates or Period c. 1775-1945

Overall Condition fair

Intrusions and Alternations Boy Scout

sites, waterfront building, dining hall, store,

parking lot, amphitheater,

Acreage 11,000 Acres

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (*month/year*) October, 1993



Sketch Map

*Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.*

See Continuation Sheet

## AREA FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

This area, now a Boy Scout Camp, was originally built as his summer home and farm by Horace Moses between 1909 and 1945. It is situated on both sides of Birch Hill Road from its intersection with General Knox Road to the Cobble Mountain Reservoir watershed lands. The area includes a Town owned cemetery with an 18th century wolf pit; formerly town owned unpaved roads; buildings and sites of demolished buildings constructed by Moses; a marker commemorating Gen. Knox's Revolutionary War journey to Boston; trails, campsites, an amphitheater and buildings constructed by the Boy Scout camp, as well as much of the Russell Pond shoreline.

Situated in a highlands of about 850 feet high at the pond, and rising to hills of 1,085 feet above sea level, much of the land is wooded, though there are cleared areas around the older buildings. There is little formal planting, and most of the area looks deceptively untouched by settlement. The older buildings, constructed between c. 1909 and the 1920s on a network of narrow unpaved roads, are all located at the west end of the pond. The rustic frame buildings are generally shingled and are frequently characterized by jerkin-head gable roofs, exposed rafters and multi-pane sash. (Continued)

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

Because Birch Hill Road is the location of only one year around dwelling, it appears to be a relatively wild and undiscovered part of Russell. This is misleading, as the area around what is now Russell Pond was the original focus of Colonial settlement in what is now Russell. The first through road in this area, which was not set off from Westfield until 1792, followed what is now General Knox Road from Westfield, then turned into Birch Hill Road towards Blandford. Called the County Road on the map of 1831, it had earlier been a turnpike.

The area was first settled when John Gray built a house near the pond in 1737. James Hazzard, who's family name was linked to the pond through the 19th century, purchased land around the pond in the late 1730s and 40s. A saw, fulling and grist mill were located at the outlet of the pond at Pond Brook well before 1771. The settlers, troubled by wolves, built a wolf pit near the cemetery.

The settlers on Birch Hill, North, General Knox and South Quarter Roads were farmers, sheep herders and loggers. In the 1840s the Western Railway, which opened through town, burned wood supplied by the dense forests on the hills. (Continued)

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampshire Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Parker, Oren, E. Plan of Woronoak Heights, Merrill and Sears, 1919.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, New York, 1870.

Pitoniak, Stephen J., Western Massachusetts History, Westfield, 1970.

Higgins, Charles E., ed., Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Issue, Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property Address

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

RussellWoronoko Heights

Area(s) Form No.

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## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

After 1841, the religious, governmental and commercial focus of town shifted to Russell Center, leaving this area around Russell Pond to its subsistence farming and logging.

About 1909 Horace A. Moses, owner of the Strathmore Paper Mills in West Springfield and Woronoco, "bought up about 20 old deserted farms extending over 1100 acres and including an 86 acre lake in the center. The farm had its origin partly due to Mr. Moses' interest in country life movements and partly due to a desire to build up a dairy that would supply milk for the employees at Woronoco at a time when there were no commercial milk routes in the neighborhood." Higgins, p. 25] It is probable that not all these subsistence farms were deserted before Moses' arrival.

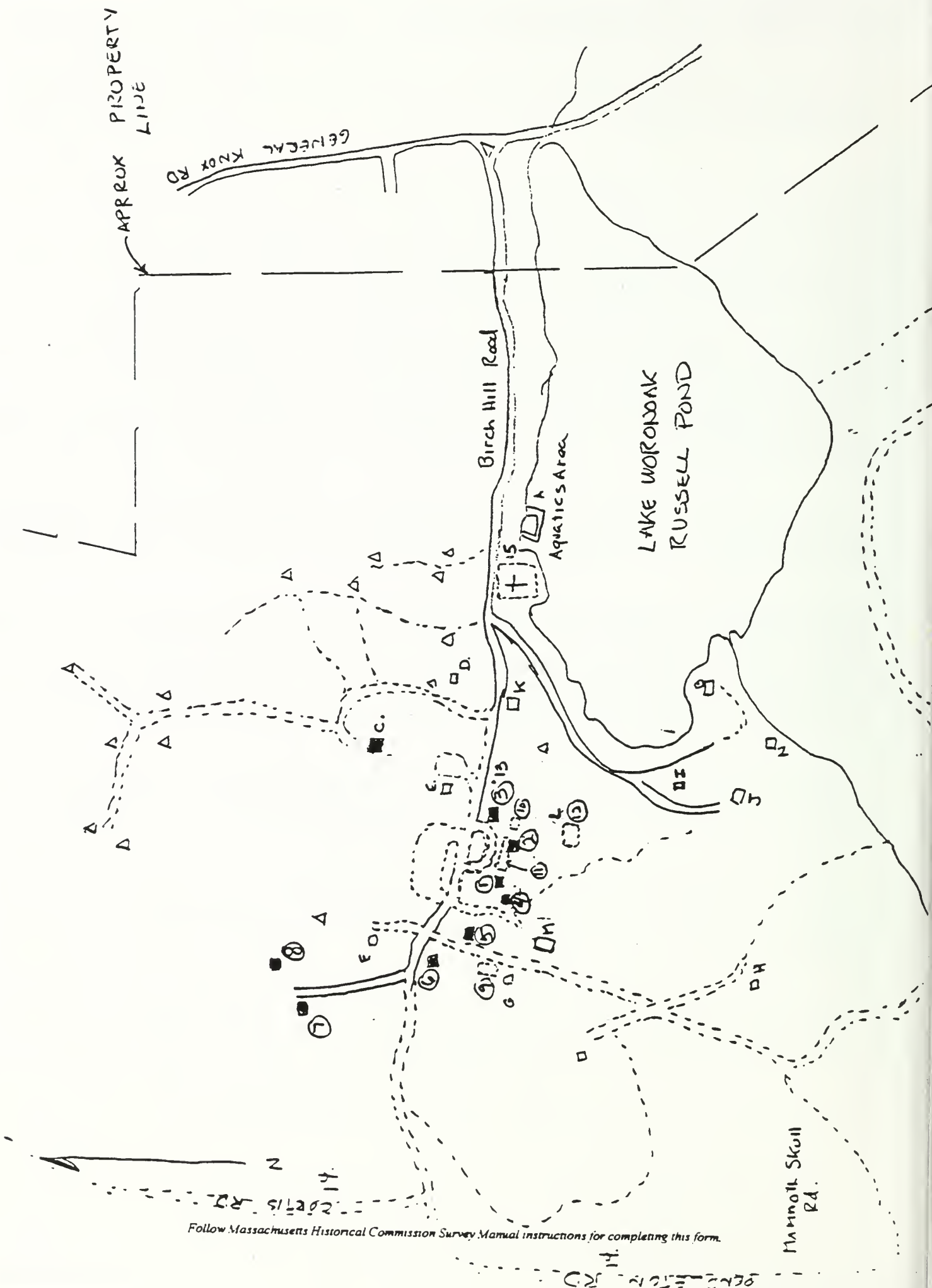
Remaining evidence of the century of farming activity which preceded Moses's purchase are two old roads which connected the farms of the area to the major roads. Moses bought land of the Allen, Donak, Tougus, Sanburn, Gutterman, Cortis, Parks, Surtleff and Shattuck families, the last four of whom are listed as landowners there on the map of 1870.

Moses was extraordinarily active and innovative in "country life movements". He was chairman and co-founder of the Eastern States Exposition and the Hampden County, Director of the Eastern States Farmers' Exchange and was active in 4-H Club work. He also founded the Junior Achievement, Inc. The son of a farmer, Moses became a gentleman farmer. With his farm manager George Harris he developed a prize herd of Ayrshire cattle and operated an orchard of Northern Spy apples. A small glass milk bottle labeled Woronoake Heights Ayrshire Milk is retained at the Boy Scouts Camp office.

He was an autocratic but benevolent company owner, forging a tight community of workmen and their families, and building a highly successful paper business. He offered his workers security, an orderly environment, and a multitude of benefits, if not a union contract. His company could not long outlast its director, and it was purchased after his death.

As well as his family's summer home, the farm served as the center of company entertaining. Famous steak roasts and meetings or retreats lasting several days were held for customers or employees. The guest cottages were used to house some of these overnight visitors.

Moses sold the property of the Hampden Council of Boy Scouts in 1945, two years before his death. His widow continued to summer here for a few years thereafter. The Scout Council has chosen to reuse many of the buildings and to retain the rustic appearance of the property.



Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.



H. A. Moses Scouts Reservation Area Data Sheet Continued

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Historic Name/Feature</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Property Type</u>
A.		Moses Waterfront	post 1945	Util.	Str.
B.		Aquatics Lodge	post 1945-	Util.	B
C.		Knox Dining Hall	post 1945-	Util.	B
D.		Guyton Country Store	post 1945-	Util.	B
E.		Nunes Administration	post 1945-	Util.	B
F.		Cabin I.	post 1945	Util.	B
G.		Cabin II.	post 1945	Util.	B
H.		Cabin III.	post 1945	Util.	B
I.		Hillside Cabin	post 1945	Util.	B
J.		Woronoke Dining Hall	post 1945	Util.	B
K.		Ranger's House	post 1945	Util.	B
L.		Amphitheater			Site
M.		Shop	post 1945	Util.	B
N.		Quimby Cabin	post 1945	Util.	B

H. A. Moses Scout Reservation Area Data Sheet

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Inventory #</u>	<u>Historic Name/Feature</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Property Type</u>
1.		Barn/Commissary	c. 1913	Craftsman	B
2.		Milk Room/Blacksmith Shop	c. 1913	Craftsman	B
3.		Manor House	c. 1913	Craftsman	B
4.		Carriage Shop	c. 1913	Craftsman	B
5.		Herdsmans Ho./ Training Lodge	c. 1913	Craftsman	B
6.		Duplex	c. 1913-1924	Craftsman	B
7.		Sachem Lodge	c. 1915	Craftsman	B
8.		Overlook Cottage	c. 1915	Craftsman	B
9.		Italian House	c. 1915		Site
10.		Greenhouse	c. 1915		Site
11.		Barn	c. 1913		Site
12.		Sheep Barn	c. 1920?		Site
13.		General Knox Marker	1927		Obj.
14.		Cortis and Pendleton Roads	c. 1800-69		Str.
15.		Birch Hill Cemetery	c. 1793		C

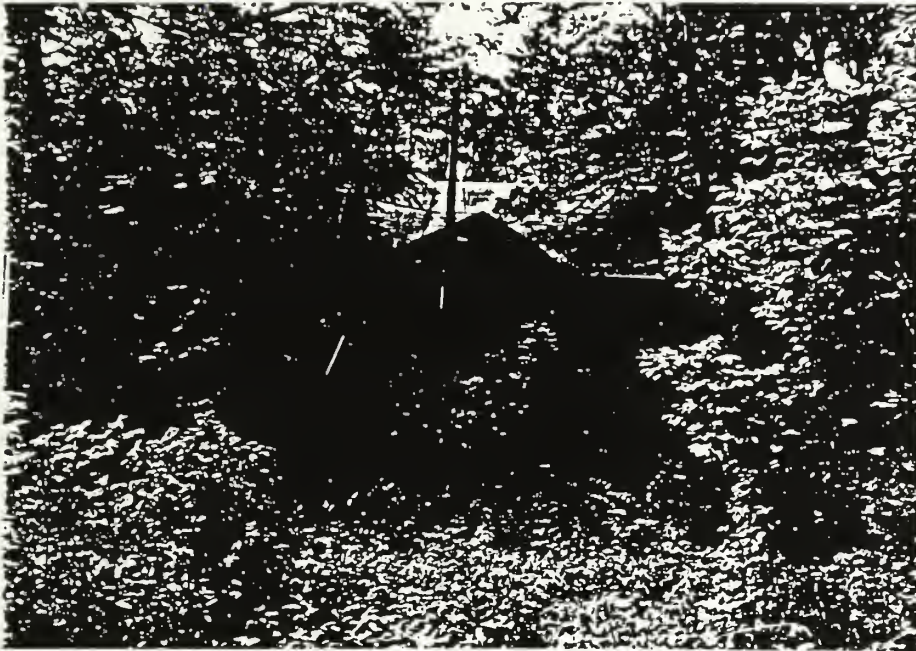
INVENTORY FOR...  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Russell

Woranoake Heights

Area(s) Form No.

--	--



Commissary (#1)  
Originally apple  
storage, c. 1913



Blacksmith Shop  
(#2)

Original milk room  
for barn, was part  
of larger building

Russell

Woranoake Heights

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

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Manor House (#3)  
1913



Carriage Shop (#4)  
c. 1913

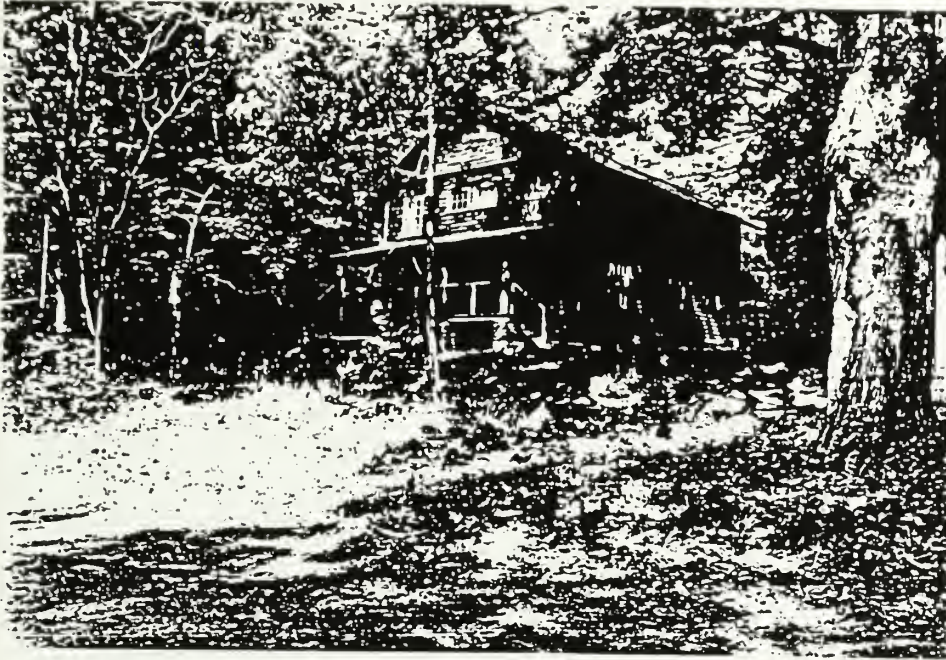
INVENTORY FORM CONTINUED ON REVERSE  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Russell

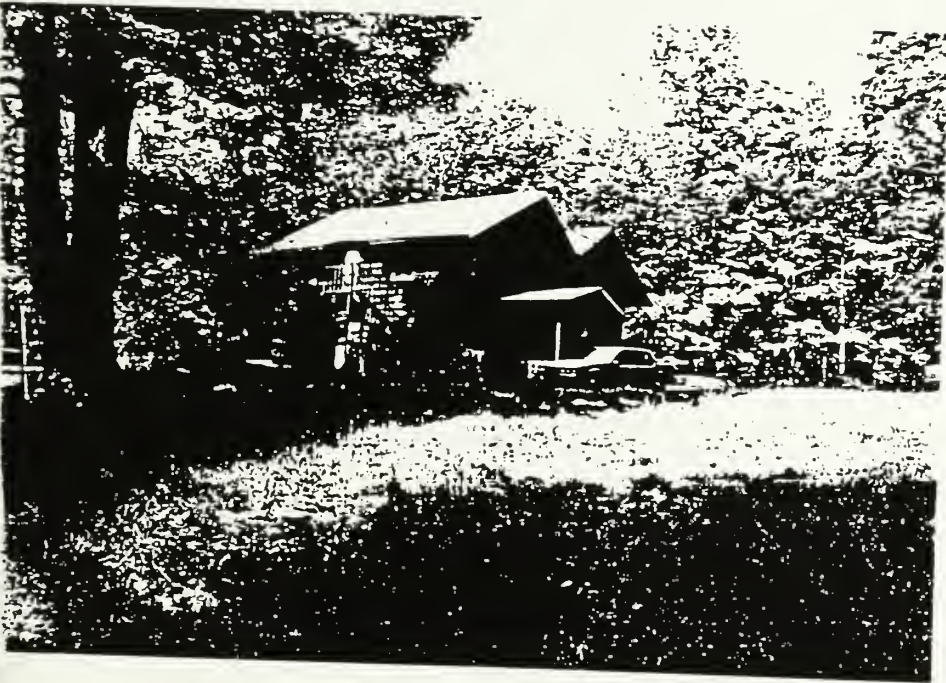
Woranoake Heights

Area(s) Form No.

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Duplex c. 1913 (#6).



Training Lodge c. 19  
(#5)



[Empty box for Assessor's Sheets]

Blandford  
Woronoco

[Empty boxes for Area Letter and Form Numbers in Area]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

of Area Westfield River Paper Company

nt Use Industrial

struction Dates or Period c. 1880s-39

all Condition fair

Intrusions and Alternations Loading dock,

multiple additions to all buildings post 19343

ge c. 95 acres

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

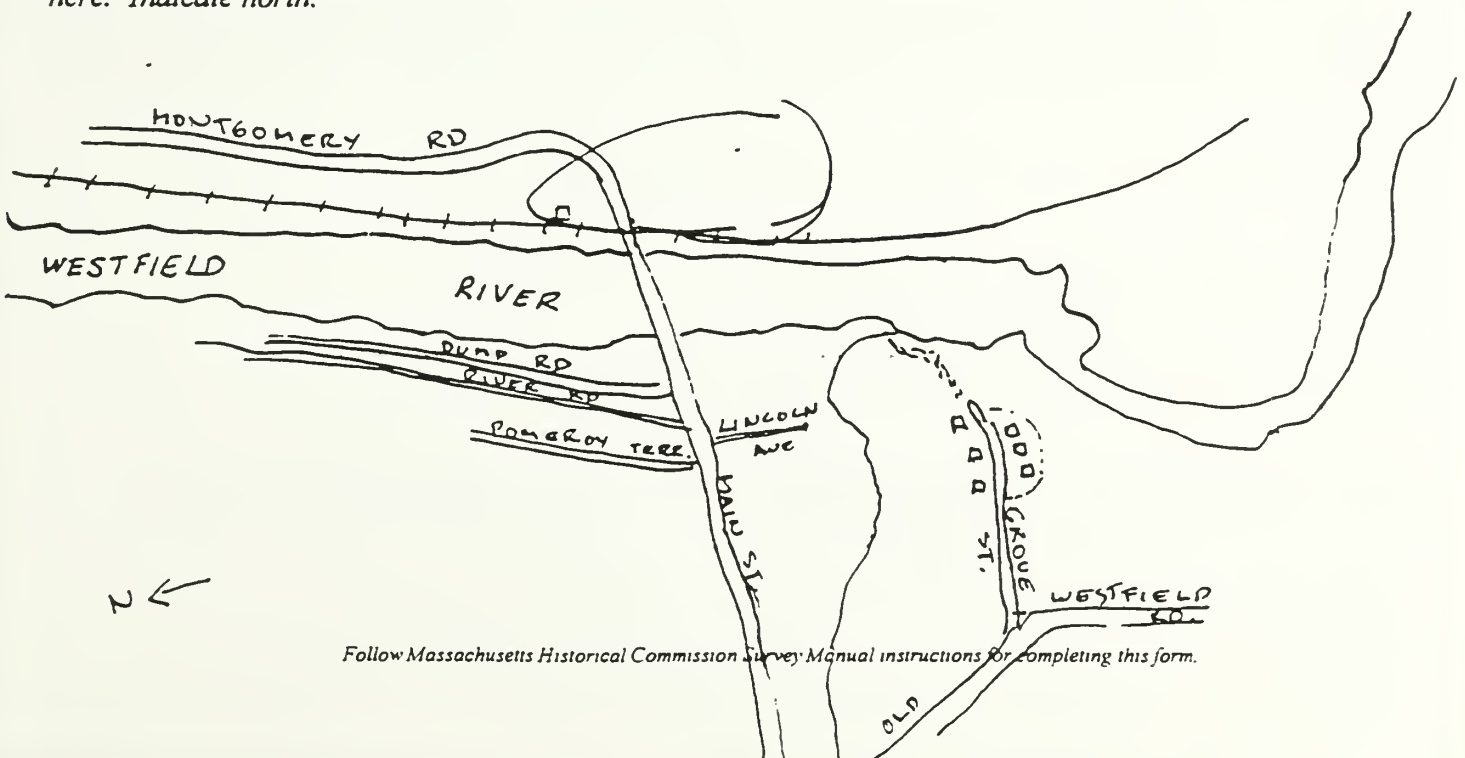
Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) Nov., 1993



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.



## AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION   *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

The buildings of the former Westfield River Paper Company are situated across from Russell Center on the east bank of the Westfield River, and just east of the railroad tracks. The buildings are widely spaced, and oriented to the rail tracks rather than Montgomery Road, which crosses the river on a bridge. The Office, [#1] built c. 1913-16, is 1 story high under a side gable roof with a front gable element of 1 1/2 stories set at the plane of the facade. The shingled building has a small entry portico, paired or triple windows with 6/1 sash, and the distinctive Craftsman style exposed rafters. A tall brick 2 story element has been added at the side.

The Manufacturing Building [#2] appears to be composed of many individual structures of varying age linked together. Constructed of brick, frame and concrete block, they are one and two stories in height, and utilitarian in design. Parts of the structure may date from the last quarter of the 19th century, but is difficult to determine which they may be. (Continued)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE   *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

In the early 1880s O. W. Norcross of Worcester and his brother built the Blandford Brick and Tile Company on this site. It had been operated in Blandford. The company produced brick for the addition to the State House in Boston and for the Springfield Theater building. Charcoal kilns on the site produced fuel for the brick kilns. When the owners were unable to procure clay locally, it was sold to Samuel G. Otis, who built a dam here. A fire in a kiln ultimately destroyed part of the plant, and it was sold to the Russell Falls Paper Company c. 1913, and then to the Westfield River Paper Company in 1916. In 1920 the company was purchased by the Moore family, who ran it successfully for many years.

The mill produced glassine paper from 1913, after Folke Becker and his brother came to this country from Sweden to produce their invention. Glassine, a near transparent paper resistant to the passage of air and grease, is widely used in packaging food. The company prospered with the development of packaged foodstuffs after World War II, expanding in 1931 and '39. (Continued)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Dotter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cumington, 1992.

Fason, Louise, "Olive Winn", in Stone Walls, Spring, 1989.

"History of the Town of Russell", Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942.

UHC, Reconnaissance Survey: Russell, Boston, 1982.

*Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

A tall, one story frame Storage Shed [ #3] is end gable in form and utilitarian in design. It has a minimum of decorative detail.

A Loading Dock [#4] c. 1962 is located parallel to a spur off the rail tracks. Constructed of vertical wood siding and set on concrete blocks, it has a long ramp to access the interior.

#### HISTORIC NARRATIVE (Continued)

The firm was important in the growth of Russell Center in the 1920s and 30s. It built new company housing on the site of the Blandford Brick and Tile Co. company housing in "the Grove", now Grove Street. A swing footbridge bridge was built across the Westfield River at the end of Grove Street to give the workers a short cut to work and home. For some years the mill operated two shifts a day. It was family run and was thought to have been good to its employees. In 1973 the mill was sold to Simpkins Industries. In 1992 the mill continued to manufacture glassine papers for such products as Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and Ritz Crackers. Originally dependent on rail transportation for its shipping, although the tracks run by its doors, the firm no longer relies on freight trains to ship its goods.

Westfield River Paper Company Area Data Sheet

Map #	Inventory #	Historic Name/Feature	Date of Construction	Style	Property Type
1.		Office	c. 1913-16	Craftsman	B
2.		Manufacturing Building	c. 1880s-1939	Utilitarian	B
3.		Storage Shed	c. 1962	Utilitarian	B
4		Loading Dock	c. 1962	Utilitarian	Str.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s)	Form No.



Office (#1)



Manufacturing  
Building (#2)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property Address

Russell

Montgomery Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

--	--



#3 Storage Shed



#4 Loading Dock

FORM C - OBJECT

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 100 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
 Woronoco

Area(s)

[ ]

Form Number

[ ]

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location H.A. Moses Boy Scout  
 Reservation, Birch Hill  
 General Knox Marker

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Object (check one):

- statue  monument
- bust  milestone
- group composition  marker
- religious shrine  bust
- boundary marker

Further (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Construction 1927

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Designer/Sculptor \_\_\_\_\_

Materials Granite, bronze

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

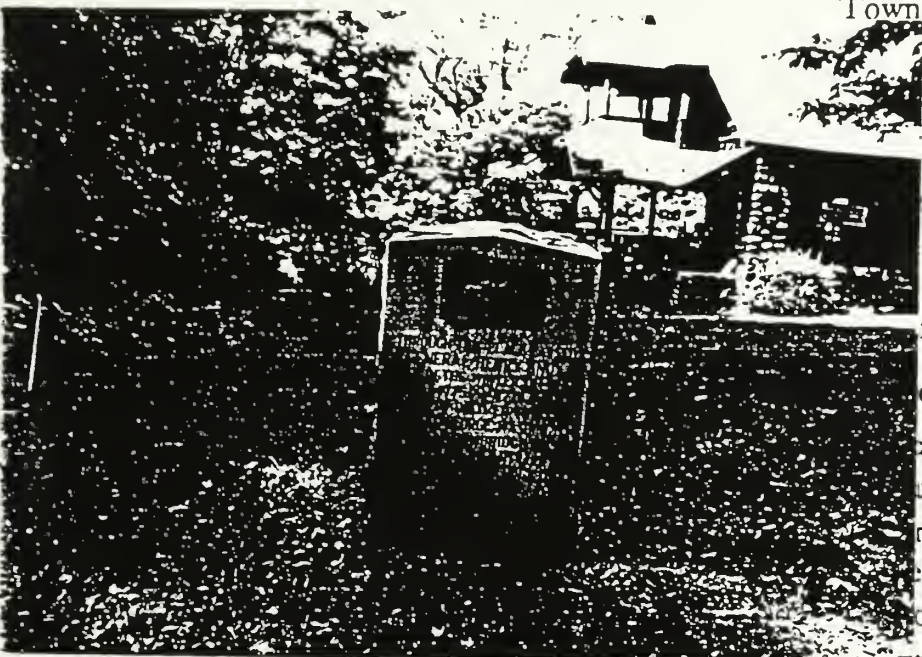
Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting next to H. A. Moses house, near  
 Boy Scout Camp, on shaded country road

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

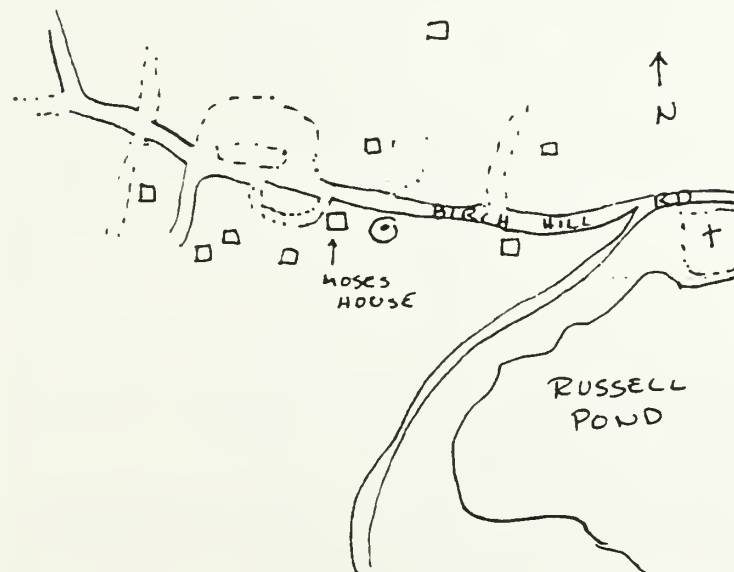
Organization PWFC

Date June, 1993



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



## OBJECT FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe design features of the object, and evaluate in terms of other similar types of objects within the community..*

This marker is one of two nearly identical stones in Russell. Made of granite, the approximately 3 feet high by 2 feet wide marker is smooth on both faces and rough or stone faced on the sides and top. A bronze plaque set above the inscription depicts in relief a scene of an ox drawn cart carrying General Knox's cannon. The marker is located in front of the former summer home of Horace A. Moses, now part of a summer camp owned by the Hampden Council Boy Scouts.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the object, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

This is one of a series of markers placed along the route over which General Knox passed when he brought the artillery captured at Fort Ticonderoga in New York State to Cambridge, Massachusetts. The cannons were hauled overland to help General Washington raise the siege of Boston. On January 13, 1776, the general and his men passed by this spot and spent the night in Westfield. There they were "given a rousing welcome by the villagers who set off a 24 pound cannon." [Pitoniak, p. 8] This part of the route was a narrow trail running from Westfield to Blandford in 1670. It became part of the Albany Turnpike running from Boston through Westfield, Russell, Blandford, Otis to Albany in 1775. An important stage route for the town, by 1810 there were three stages per day, and by 1827, Pitoniak tell us there were six lines of stages carrying perhaps 45 passengers per day running between Boston and Albany. This stage route was discontinued in 1829 when the Eight Massachusetts Turnpike was completed.

In January, 1976 as part of Bi-centennial celebrations, General Knox's arduous winter task was reenacted with participation by the communities along the route. One man from Russell made the cold but historic trek.

This marker was erected in 1927 and payed for by Horace A. Moses, wealthy owner of the Strathmore Mills in Woronoco. His farm on Birch Hill Road encompassed the land of about twenty earlier farms whose farmhouses he demolished when he erected his summer home about 1905.

### ENTIRE INSCRIPTION *(if applicable):*

"Through this place passed General Henry Knox in the winter of 1775-1776 to deliver to Gen. George Washington at Cambridge the train of artillery from Fort Ticonderoga used to force the British army to evacuate Boston, Placed by Horace A. Moses, 1927"

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Pitoniak, Stephen J, Sr., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area, Westford, 1970.  
Beneway,

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
 Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address or Location Westfield Rd/Old Westfield Rd.  
Russell Cemetery

Ownership  Public  Private

Approximate Number of Stones c. 200-300

Earliest Death Date 1794

Latest Death Date 1990s

Landscape Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good, some concrete repair to older stones

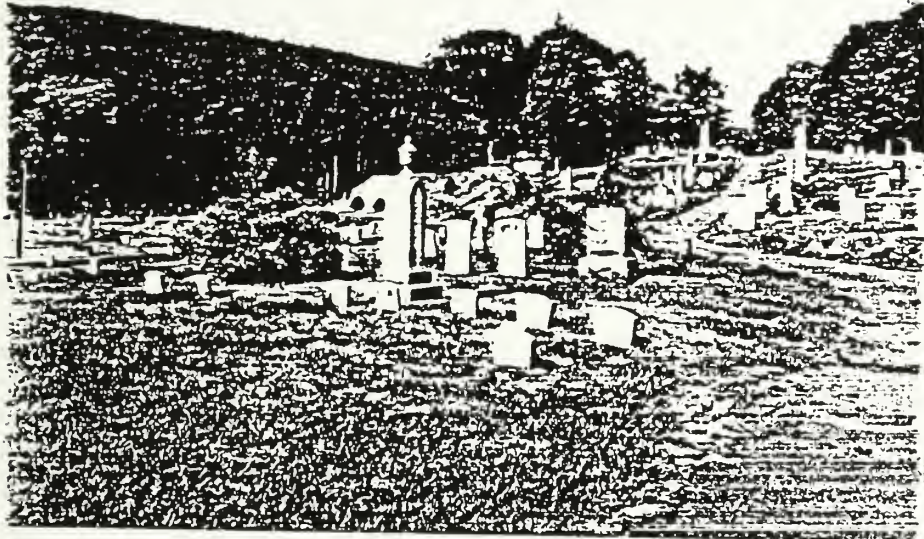
Acres c. 5 acres

Setting On old road to village center between Westfield River and present Route 20.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Par

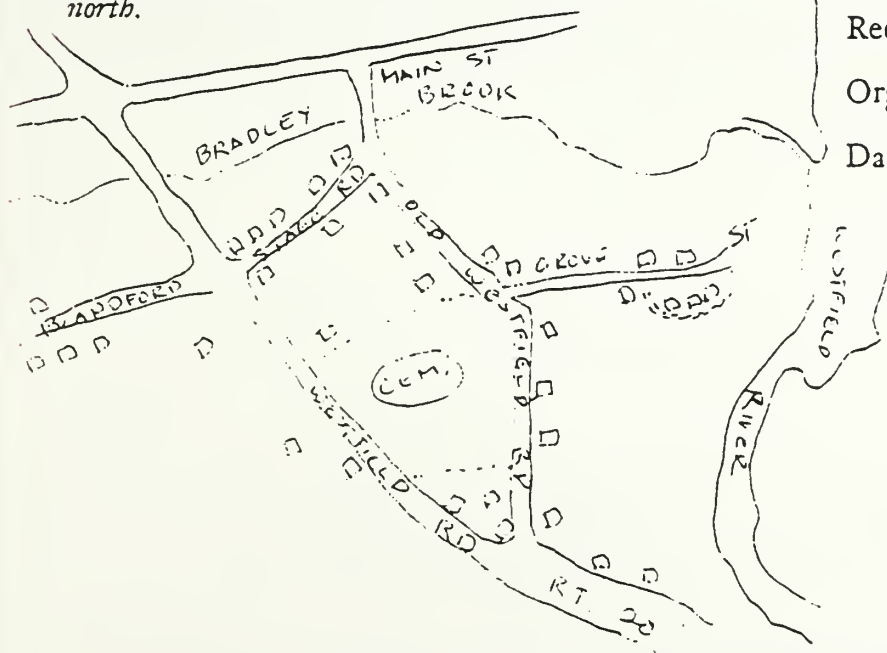
Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) June, 1993



Sketch Map

Draw or duplicate a map of the burial ground showing its location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings or major features within the burial ground, and between the burial ground and the nearest intersection. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Indicate north.



## BURIAL GROUND FORM

### VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe landscape features, gravestone materials, designs, motifs, and symbols that are either common or unusual. Note any known carvers.*

This forty four acre cemetery is located off the original major north/south road in Russell, causing Old Westfield Road to bend around it. It is surrounded by a chain link fence, trees along one side and a cast concrete embankment along another edge. The terrain is hilly, with crypts built into the slope of the hillside. The curving paths are laid out with reference to the terrain. Gravestones and monuments are in granite, limestone and marble, there is no slate. The oldest section is in the northeast corner. It has the greatest concentration of tabernacle style stones, one of which features an angel with stylized wings. Many of the monuments are in the form of obelisks or columns with urns. The hillside is the location of much of the romantic 1860s and '70s stones. The more recent stones are located on the south flats.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain religious affiliations, major period of use, and evaluate historical association of this burial ground with the community.*

This burial ground was associated with the Baptist Meetinghouse built in 1792, The original meetinghouse burned in 1820 and was rebuilt six years later on the same site. Located at 64 Blandford Stage Road, it was converted into a school and Town Hall in 1866, and was again recycled into a residence when the new Russell Center school was built on Main Street in 1923. Until after 1894 there were only two houses on Blandford Stage Road opposite the meetinghouse/school/town hall, so building and burial ground remained visually connected. This cemetery, though associated with the Baptists, was probably the burial place for many of the town's Protestant citizens, as the burial ground associated with the Methodist Meetinghouse, (demolished c. 1850) at General Knox Road at South Quarter Road, was lightly used. The Russell Center Cemetery is publicly owned.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Britton, Alice, Historical Notes, unpublished.

Pitoniak, Stephen J. Sr., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area, Westfield, 1970.

- Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

Blandford  
 20-2-9--

USGS Quad

Blandford  
 Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

--	--

Russell

(neighborhood or village) Birch Hill

A. Mosos Scout Camp Reservation

Address or Location Birch Hill Road

Russell Pond Cemetery

Ownership  Public  Private

Approximate Number of Stones 80

Earliest Death Date 1793

Latest Death Date 1988

Architect

Condition good

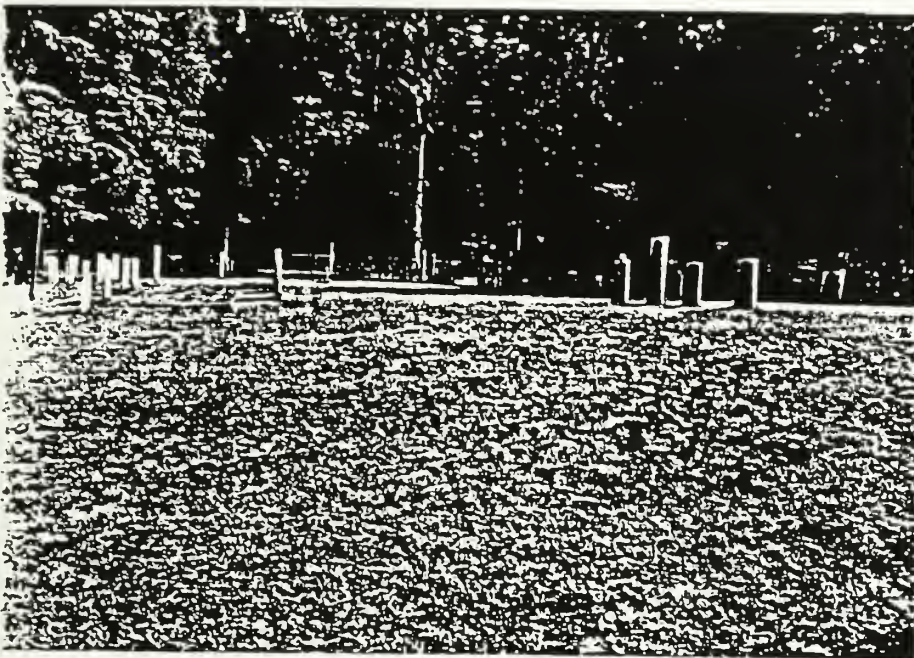
Acreage c. 2 acres

Setting Between small country road and shore of Russell Pond, enclosed by wire fence, on Boy Scout Camp land.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Pars

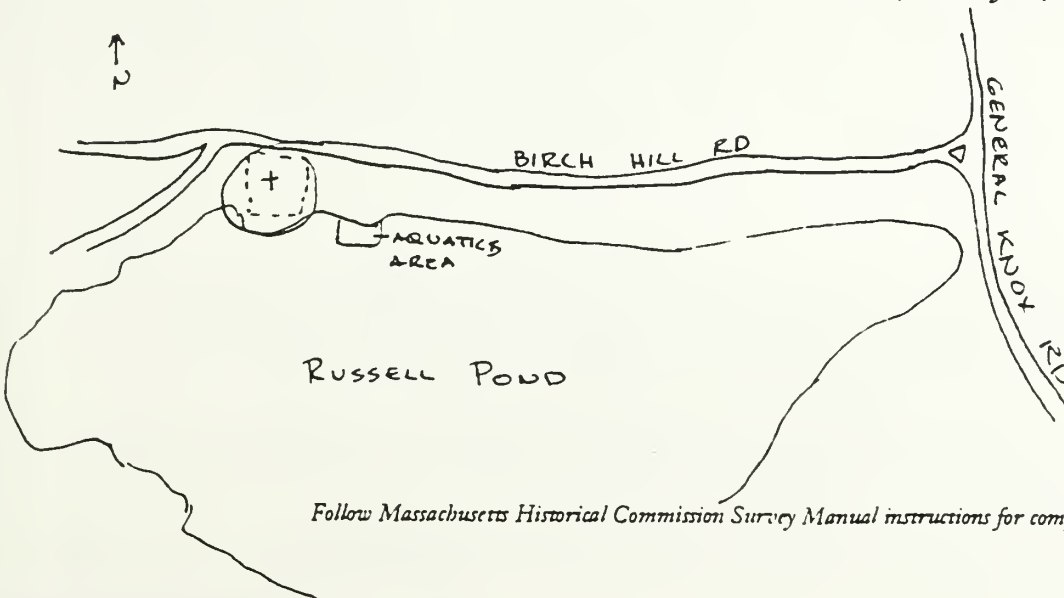
Organization FVPC

Date (month/year) June, 1993



Sketch Map

Draw or duplicate a map of the burial ground showing its location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings or major features within the burial ground, and between the burial ground and the nearest intersection. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Indicate north.



Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## BURIAL GROUND FORM

VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe landscape features, gravestone materials, designs, motifs, and symbols that are either common or unusual. Note any known carvers.*

Located on the north side of Russell Pond, this small burial ground, surrounded by a chain link fence, contains approximately eighty stones arranged in rough rows. The land is uneven and rolling. Most of the stones are granite, with some limestone and brownstone, in slab form, and many are of the tabernacle style. The earliest stone is that of Thankful Loomis dated 1793, a tabernacle style brownstone, and the latest is dated 1988. There is as well a 1865 family enclosure with a Gothic Revival fence of cast and wrought iron. An 1802 tabernacle style marker has two stars at the corners. At the center is a funerary urn flanked by two hearts. The inscription reads, "The fate of mourners here behold, The young must die as well as old, For refuge then to Jesus, Forsake the world and learn to die."

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Explain religious affiliations, major period of use, and evaluate historical association of this burial ground with the community.*

The area around Hazzards Pond, later Russell Pond, was the first concentrated area of settlement in what is now Russell. The land was settled as early as the late 1730s or early '40s, Russell was not set off from Westfield until 1795. It is probable that pre-1792 burials occurred at Westfield. Early settlers knew the pond as Ten Mile Pond, but it was later known as Hazard's Pond, after Robert Hazzard purchased the pond, surrounding land and the fulling and grist mills at its southwest corner. Hazzard was a tavern keeper and the Town's first clerk. This burial ground probably served the Meeting House, (1792) erected near the pond at General Knox Road and South Quarter Road. The map of 1830 shows the cemetery but the Meeting House seems to have been used as be the district school. Burials here continued throughout the 19th century, becoming rarer in the 20th century. Between c. 1905 and 1920 Horace Moses, owner of the Strathmore Paper mill at Woronoco bought up "about 20 old deserted farms extending over 1100 acres, including an 86 acre lake at its center". [Higgins, p. 25] Moses demolished the existing farm houses and constructed his rustic summer home and many residential and farm buildings. The property was farmed and used for entertaining staff and visitors. It became the Boy Scout Camp in 1945. In the mid to late 1700s wolves were extremely dangerous and troublesome to the settlers. To trap the predators of their cows, sheep and pigs, the townspeople dug a wolf pit, similar to a well in construction, at the southwestern corner of the cemetery. Still extant, it is now fenced and partly filled.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774.

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Pitoniak, Stephen J., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area, Westfield, 1970.

Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

9-2-2

USGS Quad

Blandford  
 Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

village) Crescent Mills

172 Huntington Rd.

11 Cemetery

Public  Private

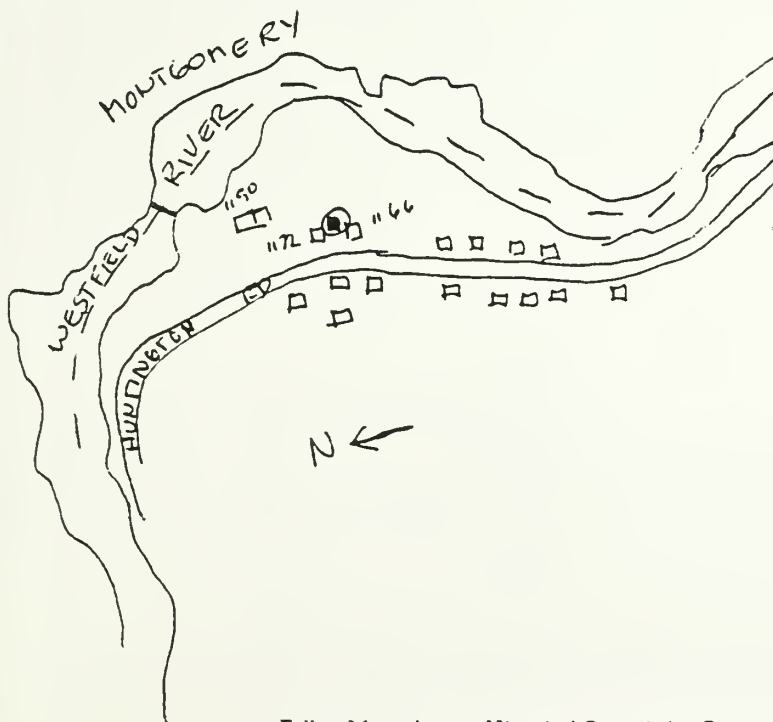
Number of Stones 6-7

18317



Sketch Map

Draw or duplicate a map of the area showing the properties location in relation to geographic features and nearby cross streets. Indicate all buildings or features within and surrounding the inventoried property. Indicate North.



Acreage less than 1/4 acre

Setting Between two former mill houses

on major throughfare of mill village.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date (month/day/year) 10/5/1993

## BURIAL GROUND FORM

### VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe landscape features, gravestone materials, designs, motifs, and symbols that are either common or unusual. Note any known carvers.*

This private burial ground is approximately 12' x 12', and enclosed by an iron fence, probably erected in the mid to late 19th century. It is located in a residential area on the major street in a mill village.

The burial ground contains about 6 stones, though because of the deteriorated state of the carving it is not possible to determine whether they are all head or foot stones. Those which, because of their size, are clearly head stones are of the tabernacle form, and of granite. Images of urns and weeping willows are carved at the top of several stones. The only clearly legible stone seems to be dated 1831.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain religious affiliations, major period of use, and evaluate historical association of this burial ground with the community.*

This was the private family cemetery of the Gould family. John Gould kept a store and grist mill in Crescent Mills, about where the mills are presently located from c. 1806. He was Selectman in 1808, 1814, 1815, 1820-25, 1827, 1830, 1831-32 and 1838.

The mill village which grew up around the paper mill of Chapin and Gould from 1858 was built around the tiny burial ground.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Britton, Alice, Notes on Historic Cemeteries, unpublished.  
History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, c. 1879.

Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Blanford  
Woronoco

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Crescent Mills

Address or Location 1190 Huntington Rd.

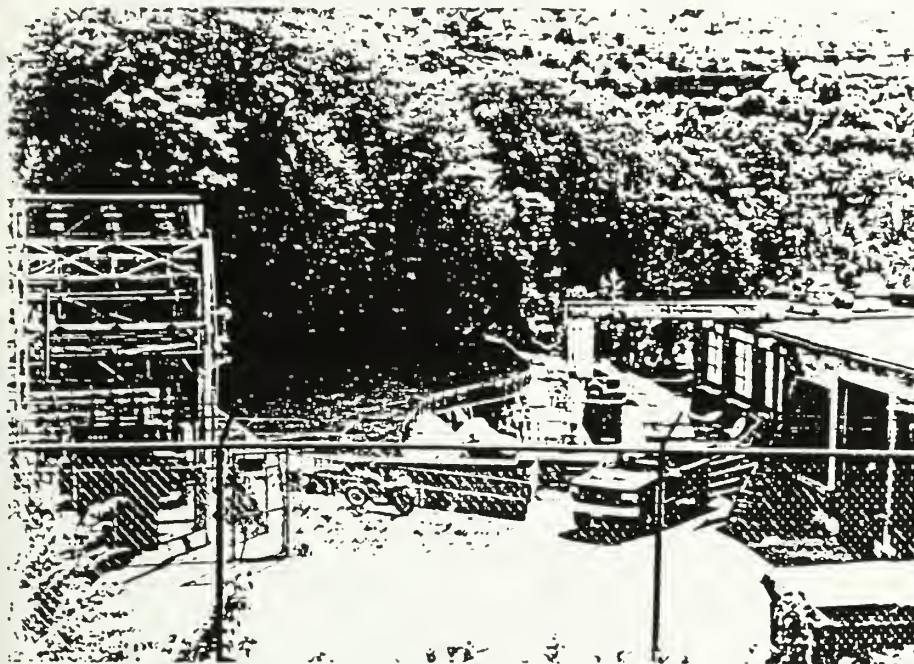
Chapter and Code Texon Inc. Dam

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

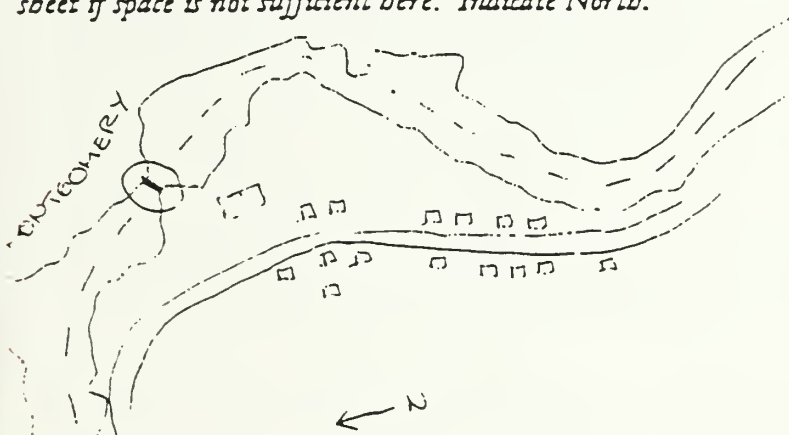
- bridge
- powderhouse
- canal
- carousel
- dam
- boat or ship
- fort
- street
- gate
- tower
- mill
- wall
- lighthouse
- windmill
- pond
- tunnel

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Date of Construction 1850/1878/modern

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) granite, concrete

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting At narrows in Westfield River

above historic mill

Recorded by PVPC, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date June, 1993

STRUCTURE FORM

DESIGN ASSESSMENT  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This dam, located at a falls of the Westfield River at a deep bend, is S shaped in form. About 75 to 100 feet long and about 50 feet high, it is constructed of stone faced granite blocks with wooden flash boards along the top. The western side is edged with concrete. The west side of the river at this point is in woodlands, and the channel is located on the east side of the river.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

This has been the site of a mill since the early 19th century when John Gould operated a grist mill here. A grist mill is pictured at the 27 foot falls on the map of 1831. Paper manufacturers Elijah Smith and Cyrus Fields operated the mill, perhaps a paper mill. However, in 1841 its advertisement for sale showed a grist mill. Chapin and Gould bought the property in 1858 and enlarged the mill and attendant structures. A paper mill was in continuous operation at this location until 1937, when it began producing a leatherette paper. Although it is not known when this dam was constructed, it is probable that at least part of it retains the dam which was rebuilt after a December 1878 flood destroyed the existing dam.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Kites, Clifford L., I Remember Crescent Mills, privately printed, Longmeadow, 1961.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-31

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

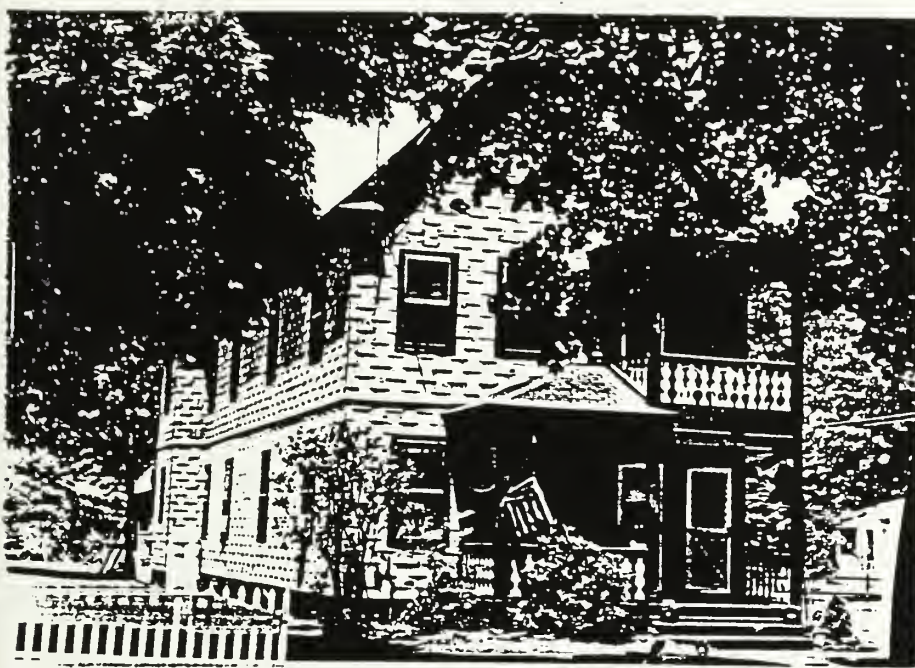
Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 101 Main Street

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Use Multi-family dwelling

Original Use Multi-family dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1895

Reference Atlas of 1894

Style Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Tar-paper shingle and clapboard

Roof Patterned slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage, (c. 1920-four bay shed shared with #103 Main Street)

Major Alteration (with dates) Porches and their balusters replaced c. 1950&1980

Condition Good

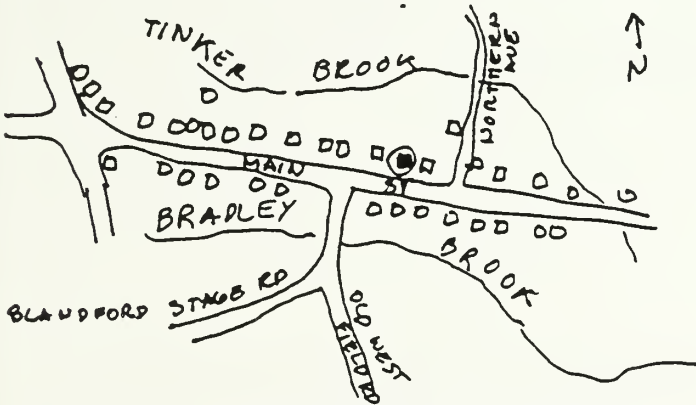
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres Under one acre

Setting Set on village center street on long narrow lot behind three maple trees.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story end gable house in the Craftsman style is a smaller version of the house next door. It has been enlarged over the years with a shed roof extension wing on west and a one story wing on east. It was almost certainly built by the Mittineague, later the Strathmore Paper Company as mill housing. As was the case with much of the housing built by the company, the house differs in plan and elevation from neighboring mill housing. While some duplicates were built, by and large the mill housing was individual which gave Woronoco more the appearance of a village than a mill town.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

When in 1905 the Mittineague Paper Company purchased the paper mill which had been built in 1879 and continued as the Fairfield Mill until its failure, there were said to be five houses on the east side of the Westfield River and four on what is now Valley View Avenue, and an old farmstead on Tekoa Avenue. The mill, under Horace A. Moses built housing for its employees, and may have purchased existing houses in the neighborhood. Soon there were about twenty houses on the west side of the river, all demolished by 1928.

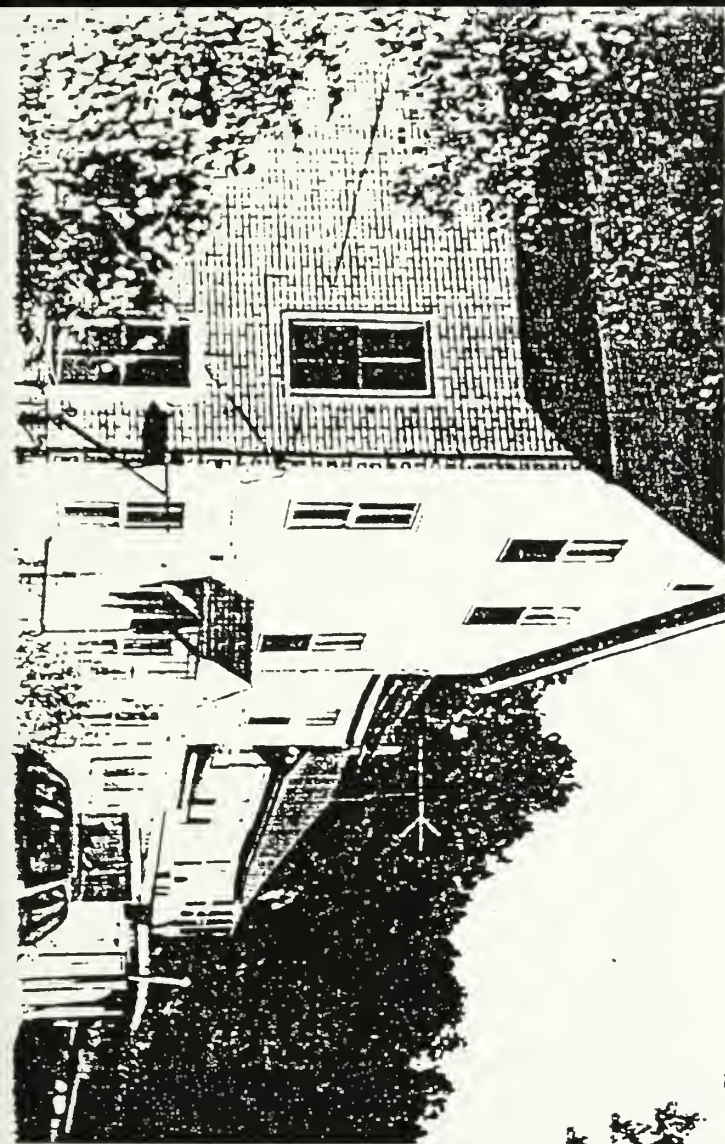
Strathmore constructed sixteen houses in 1913 to house the expanded work force needed to run the newly constructed Mill #2 across the river. Nine more houses were built in 1918. By 1942 the company owned 53 residential buildings, most of which contained apartments. .

The Strathmore Company had a policy of providing a total built and social environment for its workers. They were housed in company housing, attended social events in the firm's Community Center, played ball in its league, were sick in its hospital and may even have continued their education on a company scholarship. The hamlet was carefully maintained and continuously modernized. This house was a part of that environment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L.L., Survey and Atlas of Hampden Co, MA, Richards Co., Springfield, 1894.  
Higgins, Charles E., Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.





USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Blanford/  
Woronoco

--	--

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 370 Pochassic Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present  Dwelling

Original  Dwelling

Date of Construction 1893

Source Family owners

Style/Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder Frank Smith

Exterior Material:

Foundation Rubble stone

Wall/Trim Asphalt shingle

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

barn remodeled as a residence

Major Alteration (with dates) see above, barn

joined to house, garage added to west elevation,

asbestos siding added

Condition Fair

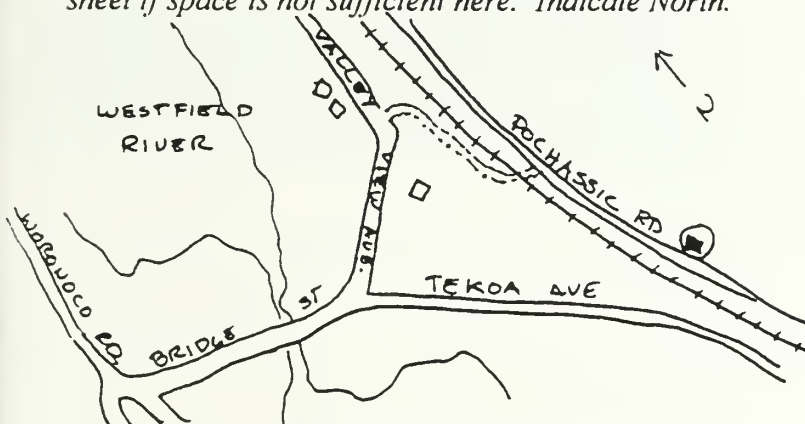
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Over one acre

Setting Set on steep hillside above the paper

mill on narrow roadway.

inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day year) July 19, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This house was actually built as two structures: one a 2 1/2 story, L shaped front gable form. the other to its south, a former barn, now remodeled as a residence, is now a 2 story house with its gable at the side. The two buildings were linked about mid-century. Now clad in asbestos siding, they have been added to repeatedly with a collection of porches, a garage, and the linking element. The buildings were, perhaps, never very elaborate: the door hood on simple braces is the only remaining embellishment. It resembles a hood on a Strathmore Mills company house built somewhat later, (81 Valley View Ave.), but the high proportions, eaves framed without returns and 2/2 window sash all are representative of vernacular building practice at the end of the 19th century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Located just west of the tracks, this house was built in 1893 by Frank Smith. Smith worked for the Boston and Albany railroad and, in the early 20th century, ran the house as a boarding house for railroad employees. It is the oldest house in Woronoco, and one of the only ones the Strathmore Paper Co. did not own in the mill village. Pochassic Road is now closed off beyond the house, but it was formerly an historic way from Chester to Westfield. The road was used when the bridge was out of service and the Strathmore Paper Company needed a route for its trucks. This house remains in the family which built it. an unusual circumstance in an era of social mobility and economic change.

The Western Railroad opened through Russell in 1841, stimulating the growth of Russell Center. The rail line, later the Boston and Albany, played a critical role in giving the town its only efficient means of transporting its goods out of the region. In 1858 the first of the town's three paper mills was built using the Westfield River for power and the railroad for transportation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L. L. Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Interview with family member.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cumington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM H - PARK  
AND LANDSCAPES

Assessor's number

28.2

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address or Location Westfield Road (Route 20)

Name Strathmore Park

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Landscape (check one):

- park  farm land  
 green/common  mine/quarry  
 garden  training field  
 boulevard/parkway   
 other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Date or Period c. 1888-1942

Source Atlas, 1894, Higgins,

Landscape Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Plans \_\_\_\_\_

Alterations/Intrusions (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Fair

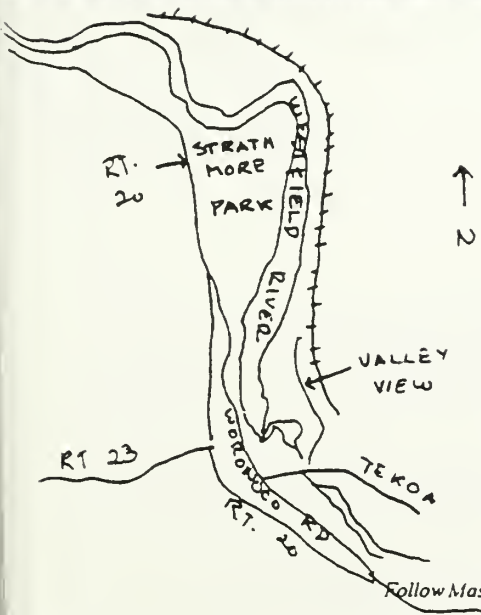
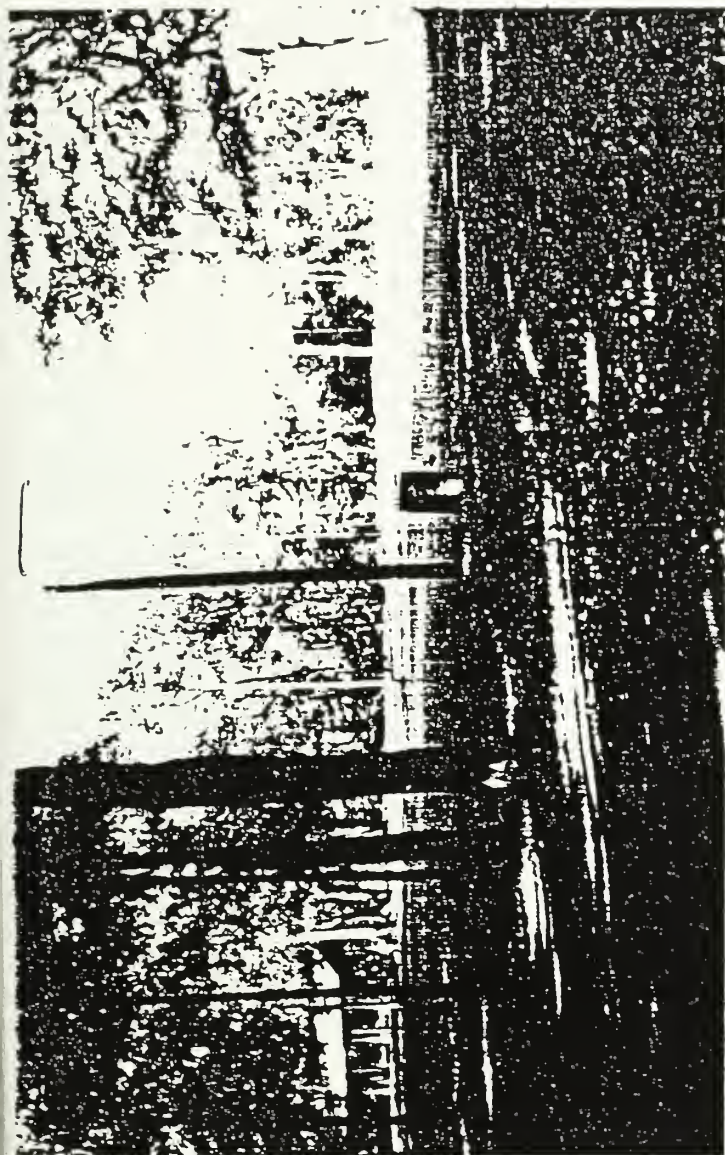
Acreage 62 or 76 acres

Setting The park is set below Route 20 on the south bank of the Westfield River.

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) July 15, 1993



## PARK AND LANDSCAPES FORM

VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe topography and layout. Note structures such as bandstands, gazebos, sheds, stone walls, monuments, and fountains. Note landscaping features such as formal plantings, agricultural plantings, and bodies of water. If possible, compare current appearance with original.*

Strathmore Park is entered from Route 20 through a pair of wrought iron gates which are decorative but fairly modest in design. The park is situated on a low lying segment of land which extends into the Westfield River. It is currently divided into several open areas: a parking field, a playing field with a c. 1935-40 wooden picnic pavilion, and a woodland border along the river itself. Trees along the grassy fields are typical of the area: maple, ash, pine and chestnut. There is a small contemporary shed near the pavilion but no buildings remain from the park's "heyday."

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of use. Evaluate the historical associations of the landscape/park with the community.*

The map of 1870 indicates this piece of land as owned by Pitcher and Parks. A building, probably the Park homestead, stood near the road. Horace Parks, born in 1821, was the station agent at Russell for 42 years. He may have moved to Main Street in Russell Center after selling his home to Fairfield. Col. Roswell M. Fairfield of Holyoke purchased the 1872 Jessup and Laflin paper mill, later the Strathmore mills, 1,000 acres of land and the Parks house, possibly in 1888 at the time he purchased the mills. Fairfield kept horses here: the Atlas of 1894 shows a race track laid out north of the house. It was located in a deep bend in the Westfield River, probably about where this large open field is today. Fairfield built up the mill, added workers' housing, and built a bridge across the Westfield River. Between 1888 and 1905 the village was known as Fairfield. The house burnt down, probably before 1905.

After the Fairfield mill had failed, Horace Moses purchased the extensive property of the mill complex, which included this site. Between 1905 and his death in 1947 Moses built the mill into a successful paper manufacturing firm. A paternal business leader, he developed an inclusive social policy for his workers, most of whom lived in company housing in and around Woronoco. Strathmore Park was operated as the private recreational facility of the company. Moses also entertained large crowds of salespeople and visitors such as "New York printers and students of the graphic arts" [Higgins, p. 44], and sometimes marched then in a parade accompanied by a band to Strathmore Park for games and picnics.

The Strathmore firm sold much of its real estate not directly associated with paper manufacturing in the mid-1950s. The park is now publicly owned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Britton, Alice, Historical Notes, unpublished.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area: Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Woronoco

Address 328 Woronoco Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Storage?

Original Grain Shed?

Date of Construction c 1875-1885

Source Potter, p. 14

Style/Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation cement block pilings, no foundations

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

roofline altered, new cement block chimney

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date possibly \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage less than 1/2 acre

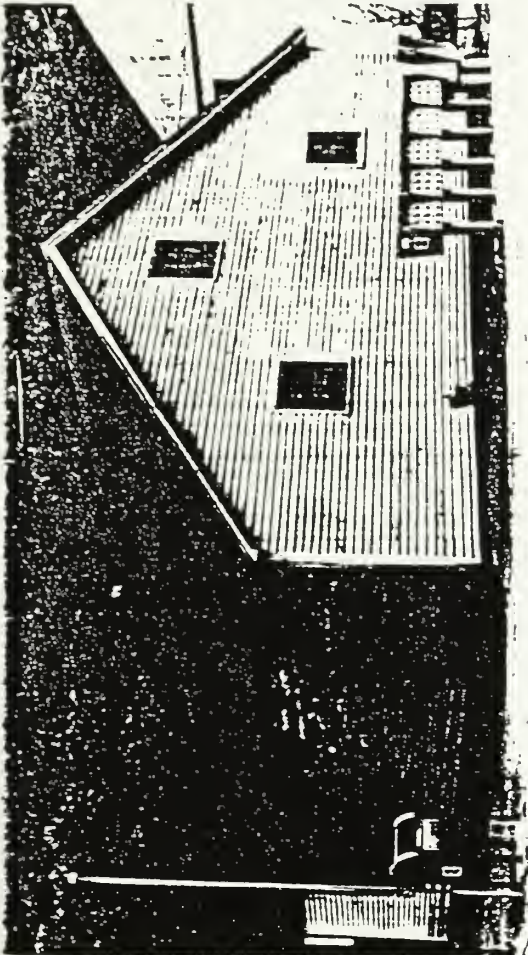
Setting On main street of mill village, set close to

street.

Recorded by Heli Meltner

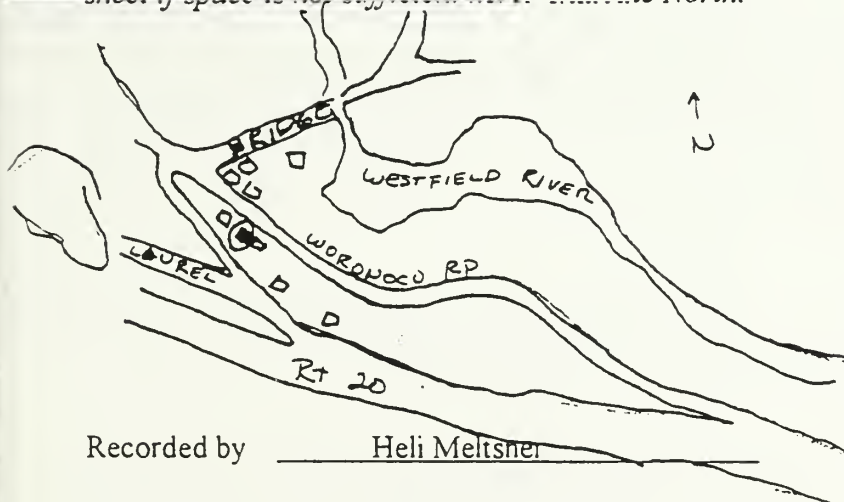
Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993



*See the photo. relative*

*lies within actual street separate North.*



## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This long clapboard storehouse of feed shed may have been turned on its site, set on new pilings and the roofline may have been altered. However, the building was probably originally very simple organized, with extremely plain detailing. The entries, centered double doors and a second side door, are placed at the gable end facing the rear of the lot. Here the alteration of the roof is noticeable, one side having been framed with returns, the other without. The small windows retain original fixed 6/6 sash. A new cement block chimney is a late 20th century addition.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On the Atlas of 1912, this building is shown as an outbuilding, possibly to the brick Fred C. Orvell Building constructed in 1902 at 334 Woronoco Road in the center of Woronoco. The brick building housed both Post Office and village store. Interestingly, the store was never a company store, as was true in many in small, one employer industrial villages. Instead, the mill management always made sure that a store operated here to supply the needs of the paper mill workers.

Michael Donovan describes a grain shed in Woronoco about 1885 as "a long, single story wood frame building with a peaked roof". [Potter, p. 14] Perhaps this is the shed.

After the opening of the Western Street Railway from Westford to Huntington in 1905, the grain shed was used as a warehouse. The trolley tracks ran behind the store and this building. Perhaps that is why the entry is located at what appears to be the rear, but was then facing the trolley. The tracks ran to a "pull-out just beyond the mill entrance and about in front of where the Old Inn stood. The upcoming car would wait there for the car from Huntington to pass and each would then go on its way." [Britton, p. 14] Trolley travel was a very popular mode of travel before cars became generally available. Trolley service was discontinued in 1926.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, Atlas of Hampden Co., Richards Map Co., Springfield, 1912.

Donovan, Michael, "Rosanna's Summer", in Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Britton, Alice, "Western Massachusetts Street Railway Line", Stone Walls, Summer, 1978, Vol. 4, #2.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

5271711

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

--	--

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 201 Tekoa Avenue

Historic Name The Beehive

Uses: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Date of Construction c 1913

Source Higgins, p. 68.

Style/Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder Strathmore Mills Eng. Dept.

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Asphalt shingle

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Garage, chicken coop, shed, \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) aluminum siding

added to porches

Condition Fair

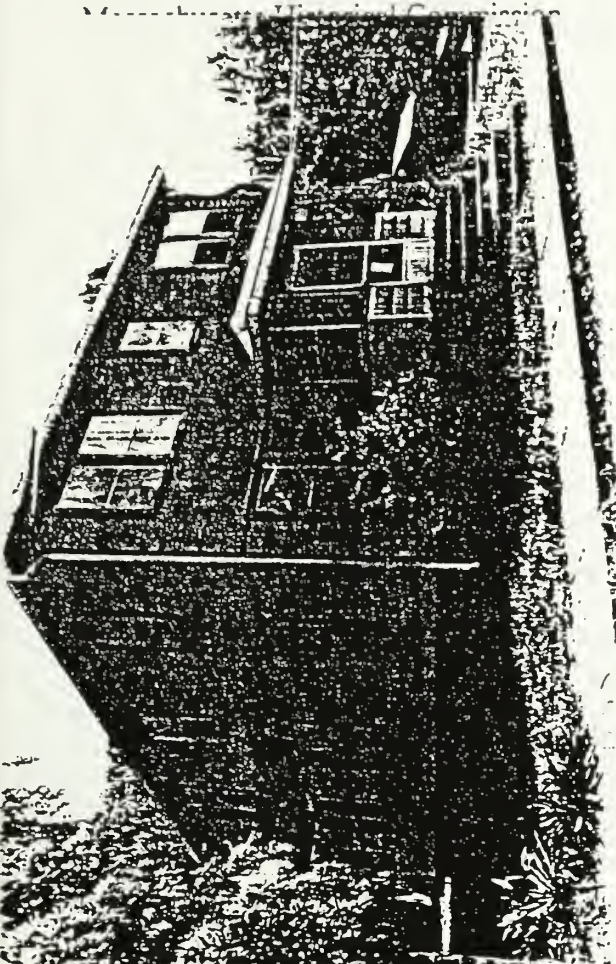
Moved  X No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage less than 1/2 acre

Setting At end of road behind Strathmore

Mill #2, between north bank of the Westfield River

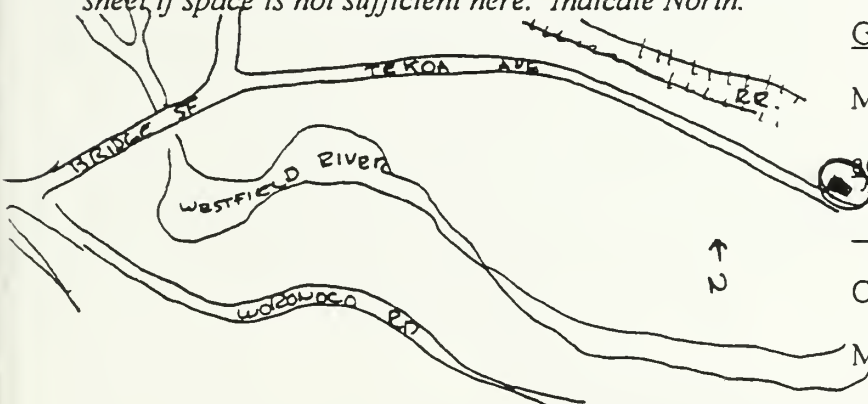
and rail tracks, only building on the street.



Indicate the photo. negative

Indicate the photo. negative

Indicate the photo. negative



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story, hip roofed form was widely popular in the 1910-25 period. Very simply detailed, the 3 bay by 3 bay house is shingle clad and has a small hip roofed entry porch. The paired windows with 6/6 sash and two story rear porches are frequently found features of the style, which takes its Colonial Revival imagery primarily from the hip roof and shingling. A two story porch at the rear has been enclosed.

The house, which looks as if it were meant for a densely built block of several small lots, was indeed constructed as part of a compact settlement, now demolished.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1872, Jessup and Laffin erected a paper mill and dam at Salmon Falls on the west bank of the Westfield River and began the development of not only a paper mill, but a mill village there to house the workers. The mill was purchased by Roswell Fairfield in about 1880, and by Horace A. Moses in 1905, who changed the name of the mill to Strathmore. In 1913, the Strathmore company erected a major new mill, Number 2, on the east side of the river.

This building was located on the approximate site of the old Cowles homestead. After the family sold the farm to the mill, probably around the period the mill was constructed in 1872, but perhaps later, the farmhouse was converted into six apartments. This density of workers gave the area the nickname, "The Beehive". About 1910 the house was razed and in 1913 seven houses were constructed there to accommodate twenty-two homes for the mill work force which was expanding to meet the needs of Mill #2. All but this house have been demolished.

The apartments were inexpensive to rent and well kept. Mr. Moses, an involved, paternalistic mill owner, believed that a good environment for his workers would profit his firm. He provided cheap apartments, health care, education and a great deal of recreation. His interest in an orderly, attractive environment and promoting healthy competition even went so far as the distribution of lawn mowers to each house, and contests to determine which had the best looking lawn, thus simultaneously motivating the laborers and maintaining the grounds of the mill housing.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.  
Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

27-3

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood or village) Woronoco



rel Road

dwelling

dwelling

c. 1920

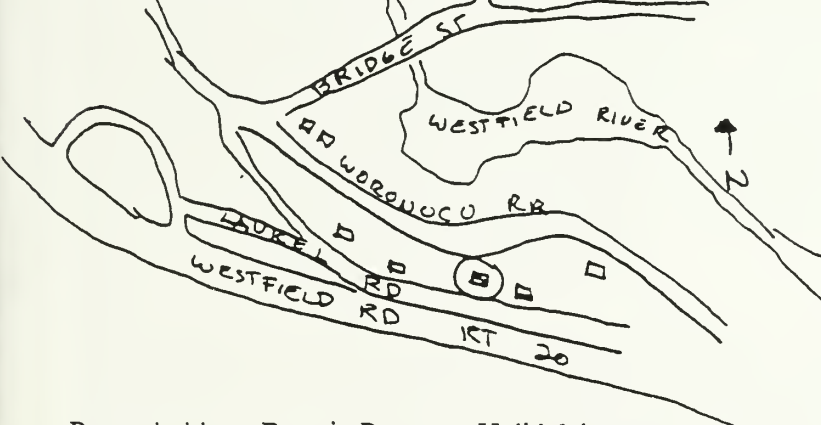
ns. Strathmorean

man/Colonial Revival

one

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 10/26/93

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

Major Alteration (with dates) deck added

(c. 1980)

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting Set below level of Laurel Road but

facing Westfield River across Woronoco Road

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a two and a half story house with a steeply pitched end gable roof. Two bays wide and three bays long, it is a large rectangle in plan. The wide eaves overhang, row of small second story windows, and the overall irregularity of the fenestration are features of the Craftsman Style, together with the fieldstone chimney and foundations. However, the house has several Colonial Revival features as well, the primary of them being the garrison overhang between first and second floors, the steeply pitched roof and the large volume of the house. This building is not duplicated elsewhere in Woronoco.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This is one of four houses on Laurel Road which was built in the first two decades of the 20th century and is closely associated with the Strathmore Mills as workers' housing. This house and #109 Laurel Road depart from the others in the area of the mill however, in being single family houses which are not duplicated elsewhere. After Mill No.2 was built by Strathmore in 1913, the company had a need for more housing for its workers and this house may have been erected at that time. As the area was known for being the home of the more prosperous of Woronoco's residents, it may have been built for a management level employee.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 334 Woronoco Road

Historic Name Fred C. Orvell Building

Uses: Present Post office/Store/Dwelling

Original Post Office/Dwelling

Date of Construction 1902

Source Newspaper clipping, undated

Style/Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Brick

Roof Tar

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Clapboard storage building (?) related

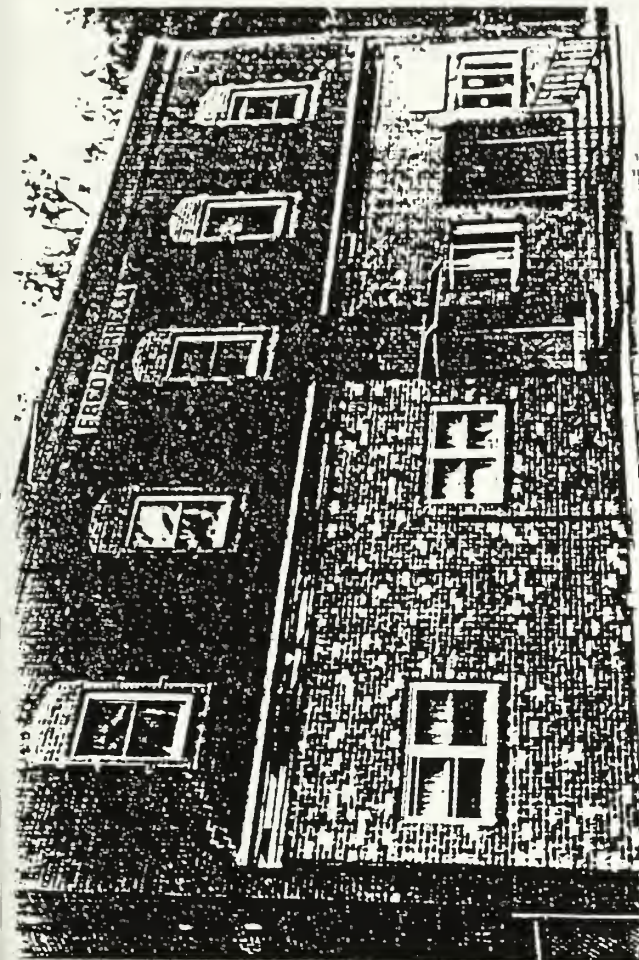
Major Alteration (with dates) Store fronts filled in circa 1950. Window bays on east filled in and new windows inserted, new door and surround.

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Under one acre

Setting In small cluster of dwellings. Several hundred feet from the mill.



is the photo. native

es within al

inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story square brick building has had major alterations which obscures its historic design. Originally similar to mill buildings, it had segmental arched windows, now filled, and brownstone sills and a corbeled cornice. A brownstone plaque with the name Fred C. Orrell is centered beneath the cornice. The bays of the commercial storefront were originally plate glass with an inset door and glass transom. This area has been filled with a distinctly different brick and its windows unsympathetically altered. One half of building has been converted to residential use with all new window infill. A second floor porch on the west elevation has been removed.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Cited as one of Woronoco's landmarks, this building was constructed in 1902. A post office has been located on its ground floor since it was built. The first post office in Salmon Falls, the original name for this area, was opened in 1884, with Henry S. Eldridge as postmaster. He was followed by John T. Breede (1887). After Roswell M. Fairfield purchased the Jessup and Laflin paper mill in 1888, he changed the name of the community to Fairfield and served as the postmaster. The village name changed again in 1904, becoming Woronoco. In 1905 the failing mill was purchased by Horace A. Moses who built the plant as the Strathmore Paper Company to become the leading employer in Russell, and a nationally recognized firm.

This was also the site of the village store. The property was owned by the mill but leased to the store proprietor. Horace Moses, who owned the Strathmore Mill between 1905 and his death in 1947, "always made sure a store was in town", [Potter, p. 21] rather than operating a company store. The plain wood frame building just to the north was originally a grain shed associated with the store. It was later used for storage. Its door may face west rather than east to the street because between 1905 and 1926 the trolley tracks of the Western Street Railway from Westfield to Huntington ran behind it.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Newspaper clipping, no publication name or date in the files of Alice Britton.  
Britton, Alice, "Did You Know", Town of Russell, Annual Report, Russell, 1971.  
Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

52-7

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Acres

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 315 Woronoco Road

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Multi-family dwelling

Original Multi-family dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1910

Architect Higgins, Strathmorean

Style Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim asphalt shingles and wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Under one acre

Setting House is several hundred feet away from the mill.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heidi Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is one of a pair of houses which are nearly identical. It is a two and a half story building four bays wide and four bays deep for a nearly square plan. Despite the relatively few number of bays, this is a very large house. It has a steep end gabled roof with typically thin boxed eaves and minimal returns. The street facade is punctuated by a centrally placed, in-plane dormer. There are two interior chimneys. Sash is metal replacement of 1/1 lights. There is a single story porch across the street facade with turned posts. As is true of Woronoco's contemporary mill housing, trim around windows and doors is utilitarian. The building is stylistically designated Colonial Revival more for its end gable, central dormer form and scale than for any particular decorative devices.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

It is possible that this building and its identical neighbor were built by the Fairfield Paper Company before it was sold in 1905; however, it is more likely that the successor paper company the Strathmore Paper Company built these multifamily dwellings for their workers between 1913 and 1918 when their business prospered and they needed to attract workers to the community. The paper company created a community for its employees by providing housing, a community center, park, playing fields, sports and social activities. This was not an uncommon arrangement in Massachusetts during the first decades of the 20th century before the union movement changed the relationship between workers and owners. The decline of this mill was related to the shift in locus for industries to the south where power and labor were cheaper after World War II.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E. Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.  
"The Fairfield Paper Company" undated, archival material in the collection of Alice Britton.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

000000

SGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area / Lot Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 130 Valley View Avenue

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

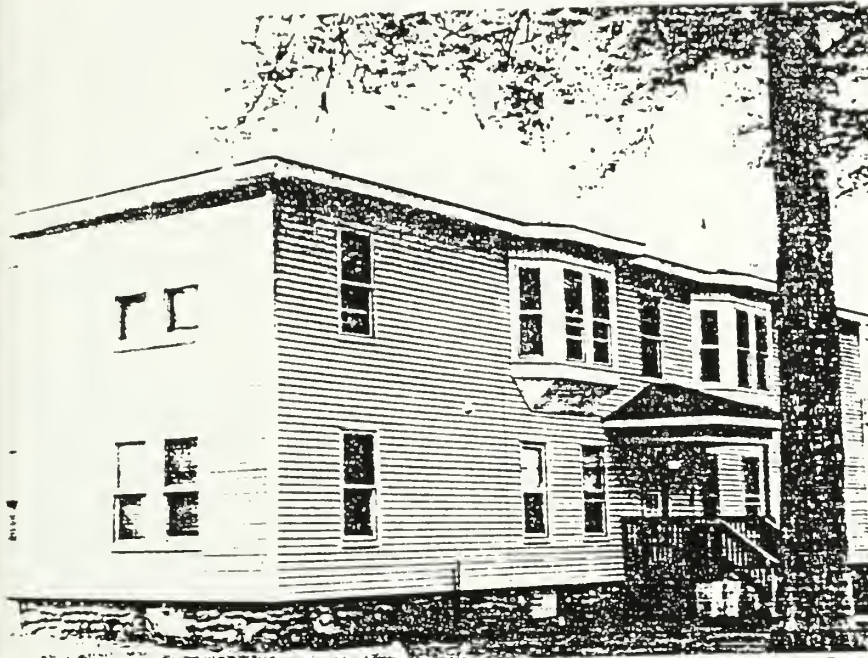
Original Dwelling

Year of Construction c 1913

Architect Higgins, Strathmorean

Style/Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_



Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

New porches, vinyl siding, 1980s

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

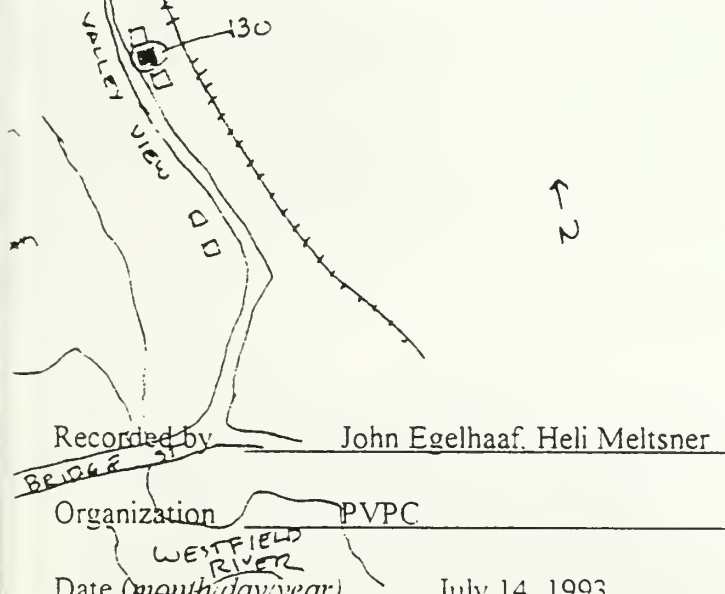
Setting On the east side of the Westfield

River, facing west on mill village street.

at rear are rail tracks

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 14, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The appearance of this tenement, built by Strathmore Mills to house the families of its work force, has been altered by the addition of vinyl siding and unsympathetic porch posts and rails, but the general shape and the two symmetrically placed oriel windows on the facade remain. The hipped roof and oriels suggest the building may have had a more well defined Colonial Revival style before its alterations. Prominent are the high fieldstone foundations, the blocky massing and the paired windows, giving maximum light to the interior. The hipped roof and single central door, emphasized by the hip roofed porch suggest the organization of a single family house. However, the apartments would have been entered through a central hall, as in apartment building design of the period. This is one of three multifamily houses which were built adjacent to each other. Each is slightly different in plan and elevation from the other, which is unusual in mill housing in Massachusetts which more often duplicated units.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On the map of 1831 there appears to have been a small settlement at the Salmon Falls of the Westfield River, so named for the salmon, which, as they could not swim up the falls, were plentiful here. There were two schools and a "Canal Feeder Dam" at the time. In 1872 the first paper mill at this location was built. Bought by Roswell Fairfield in 1890, the mill expanded, but failed, and was purchased in 1905 by Horace Moses. He developed the Strathmore Mills and built a whole town here to house, supply, entertain and educate his workers and their families.

This tenement may have been built by the Strathmore Mills about 1913, when it greatly expanded its operations on the east side of the river with its large Mill #2. The mill constructed 16 houses in 1913 and nine more in 1918. In 1942, with the older houses built by the mill and its predecessors, the mill owned 125 apartments in 53 buildings. In 1924 it built another three family house on Valley View Avenue. Before World War II the village, with its Social Club, Casino, Inn and later Community Center, and the mill-owned apartments were carefully built and maintained. A tight-knit and even proud community spirit was fostered by the mill.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831.

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Higgins, Charles E., Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, Strathmore Paper Co. West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

52-2-01

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (*neighborhood or village*) Woronoco

Address 136 Valley View Avenue

Occupant Name  

Present Use Dwelling

Original Use Dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1913-1916

Architect Higgins, Swarthmorean

Style Craftsman

Architect/Builder  

Exterior Material:

Foundation stucco over fieldstone

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alteration (*with dates*) sided, new

porch added and sash replaced (1980s)

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date  

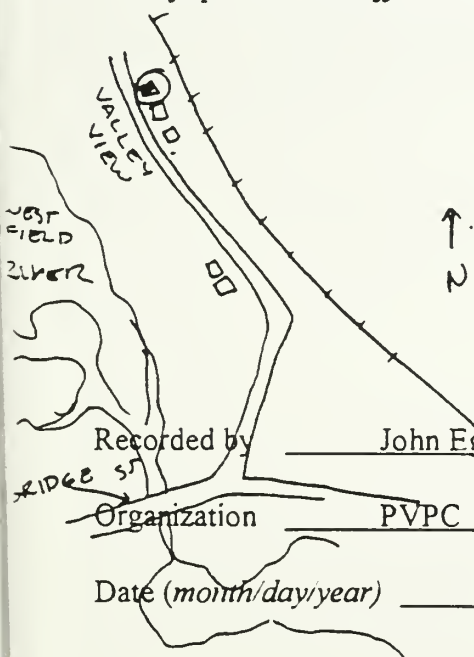
Acreage Under 1 acre

Setting the last of a group of mill housing on

the east side of the Westfield River near Mill #2

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (*month/day/year*) July 14, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This large tenement was built by the Strathmore Mill Co., probably after 1913. It is one of a group of three similar buildings. The two and a half story multi-family house, probably set on stuccoed over rubblestone foundations, is a long, 8 bay structure with an end gable roof. Now sided in vinyl, it has lost much of its original detail. The four entries with new doors are centered under a shed roof porch. New porch supports and balustrade help hide the original stylistic features of the building. The single detail which remains to indicate a Craftsman style origin, is the shed roof dormer. Windows are grouped in triplets or are single, with 1/1 sash.

The long form, simple detailing, multiple entries and siting in a group of like structures all were common features of workers' housing. When this house was new, the lines would have been softened by the tree-lined street and company plantings.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This is one of seven original buildings built by the Real Estate Department of the Strathmore Paper Co. to house its workers and their families. While the buildings were not especially elegant, they were comfortable and well maintained. The firm was family run, even paternalistic, and anxious to accommodate its work force. It provided medical treatment, space for social clubs, outings and parties for workers and, after 1928, a Community Center with social club and handicraft rooms, a gym and ball fields.

In 1913 the mill constructed its Mill #2 on the east side of the river. To shelter the additional workers required to man it, the company built 16 houses and nine five years later. Most contained apartments. Many of these buildings were demolished in the 1955 flood, others were demolished after the company abandoned the real estate business in the mid-1950s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E., Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.  
Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

27-5-9

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Areas

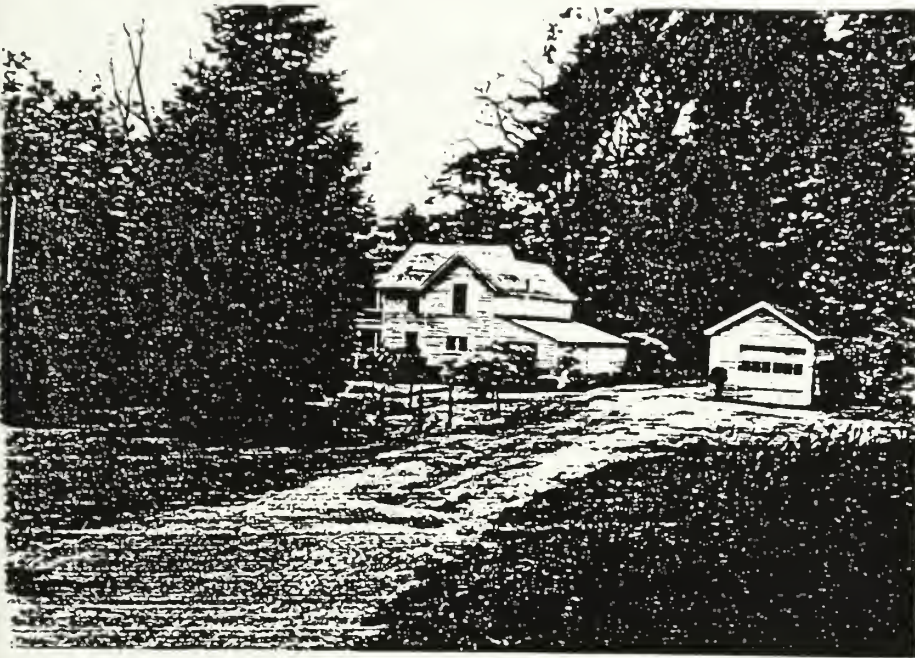
Form Number

Empty boxes for Areas and Form Number.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 1141 Westfield Road

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1905 - 1915

Owner Higgins, Strathmorean

Style Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim clapboard siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage (1960)

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Good

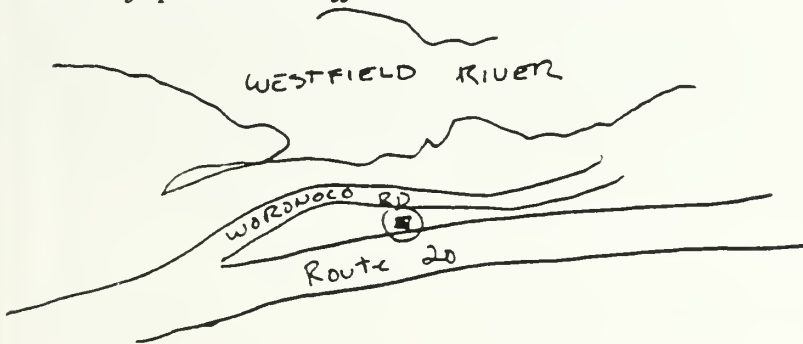
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage More than one acre

Setting Off route 20, on a ridge overlooking a valley.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by \_\_\_\_\_, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story house was probably built as a single family dwelling and then adapted as mill housing for the families of workers at the Woronoco, later Strathmore Co. Paper Mills. "T" shaped in plan, with a front gable, it has a two story front porch across the gable end providing a sitting area for each family. The 2/2 sash is typical of the period. The garage is a newer addition, as the original families could have walked to work.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Strathmore Paper Company, which took over a failed paper mill in 1905, began the production of fine rag papers at the falls in the Westfield River, named successively Salmon Falls, Fairfield and Woronoco. An extremely successful venture, it was owned and managed by Horace A. Moses. By 1913 the company greatly expanded the mill in 1913 with the construction of Mill #2 across the Westfield River. Needing an enlarged work force to meet its new needs, the company built sixteen houses in 1913 and nine more in 1918. The company bought existing housing as well and there are only one or two houses in Woronoco which held out private ownership. The firm's Real Estate Department which built the new housing and altered existing houses, also took responsibility for the demolition of the older outbuildings located around the property.

The Strathmore Paper Company provided more than housing for its workers. A Community Building (1928) housing social clubs and a gym, a buildings to house churches, a hospital and a school, a store and playing fields were constructed or remodeled by the company. Horace Moses who was the driving force of the company died in 1947 at 85. His death led in the mid 1950's to the company selling or demolishing many of its residential properties, in part because many of the remaining rental units then no longer housed mill workers.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

L. L. Richards and Co. Survey and Atlas of Hampden Co., MA, L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1984.  
Higgins, Charles E. Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

[ ]

Area(s) Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 81 Valley View Avenue

Public Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present vacant

Original dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1920

Style Higgins, Strathmorean

Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material:

Foundation cobblestone

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition poor

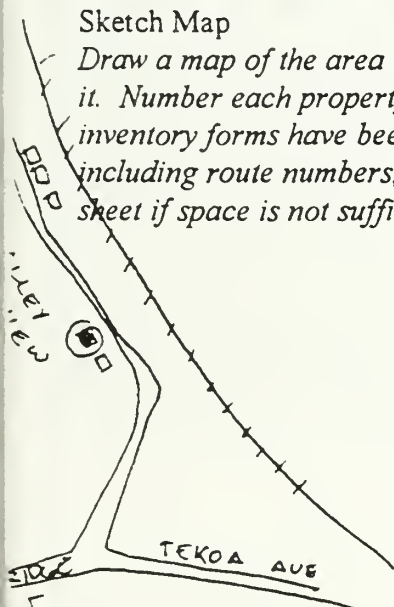
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres approximately 1/4 acre

Setting Faces north, close to mill #2

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 9/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story, multi-family house is a near duplicate of its neighbor next door at #79. The three bay facade in the gable end has a center entry topped by a gabled hood which is embellished with a Craftsman style cross brace and is supported on heavy brackets. A shed roof dormer on the east, wide eaves overhang, paired windows and high, rounded cobblestone foundations are typical features of this style, although as workers' housing the building is more utilitarian than stylistically developed.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Strathmore Paper Company which built this house for its workers was said to have "owned" the village of Woronoco. During the first quarter of the 20th century, the Company built and maintained a large number of multifamily houses for its work force as well as buying existing housing stock. These houses which are located in the valley and close to the mill buildings were less prestigious among employees than those closer to Route 20 and further up on the hillside. However, they all shared a relatively generous scale and enough differentiation to remain today as examples of progressive mill housing. The Company prospered in the 1920s and it may have required extra accommodations to keep up with the size of its work force. It may, alternatively, have needed to build new housing after having demolished some of the older houses deteriorated buildings it had inherited from the Jessup and Laflin and the Fairfield Mills which had produced paper on this site since 1872.

In the 1920s Woronoco was a thriving and well-kept community. In 1928 the mill built a Community Building just next door to this house. as a social and sports center for the employees, and there were playing fields, a school, post office store, inn and many more company houses than remain today. Most of these buildings were demolished after being abandoned, although some were lost from damage or destruction by floods in 1938 and 1955.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Potter, Jeff. Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Higgins, Charles E. Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

52-3-2

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty box for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 79 Valley View Avenue

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling \_\_\_\_\_

Original Dwelling \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Construction c. 1924

Reference Higgins, Strathmorean, p. 69

Style Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Material:

Foundation cobblestone

Wall/Trim wooden shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Two story porch added circa 1940

Condition Fair

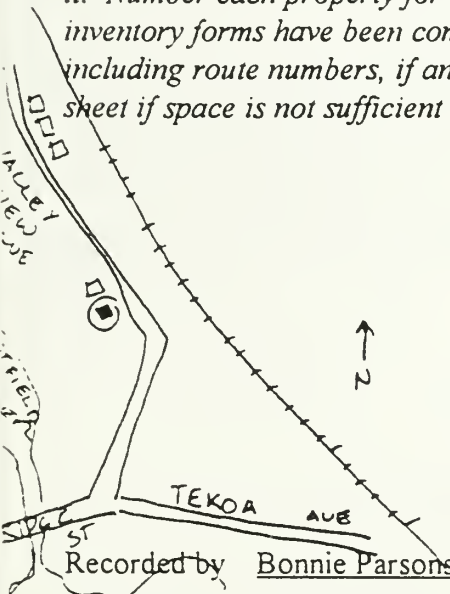
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Faces north across from the number two mill.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

Built by the Strathmore Mills for its workers, in all likelihood this simple Craftsman style, multifamily dwelling house was originally a duplicate of its neighbor at 81 Valley View Road. It has little ornament but strong lines. It is a two and a half story, front gabled, three bay home with a shed roof dormer on the east. The paired windows, typical of the period, are filled with one over one sash. A two story porch was added in the 1940s.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This, or its next door neighbor, may be the house built by the Strathmore Paper Mills for worker housing in 1924 at a cost of \$16,500. The company Real Estate Department reported that it was the home of three male workers, but we do not know if their families also occupied the house. The firm had constructed 16 houses in 1913, nine in 1918 and possibly this one in 1924 in response to its continued growth. After 1924, there was no further company house construction: the flood of 1938 made for losses, and by the mid 1950s the company abandoned the real estate business.

The success of Strathmore Mills was the result of the business genius of its founder, Horace Moses. He bought the paper mill in 1905 and built it to a nationally known firm before his death in 1947. It produced fine papers, particularly deckle edged, and heavy industrial papers such as blue print stock. He was personally difficult, demanding but idealistic, and he ran the company in an emphatically "hands on", paternalistic style. Strathmore not only housed its workers at a nominal rent, but provided them with health care, social and sporting facilities, scholarships for their deserving children and a real sense of community. Unions, however, are not mentioned in the literature. The Community Hall stood just east of this pair of buildings

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, Strathmore Mills, West Springfield, 1942.  
Potter, Jeff, Russell, Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

*National Register*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

[ ]

Area(s) Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 1-2 Mountain View

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present multifamily dwelling

Original multifamily dwelling

Date of Construction c.1913-1918

Source Higgins. Strathmorean

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

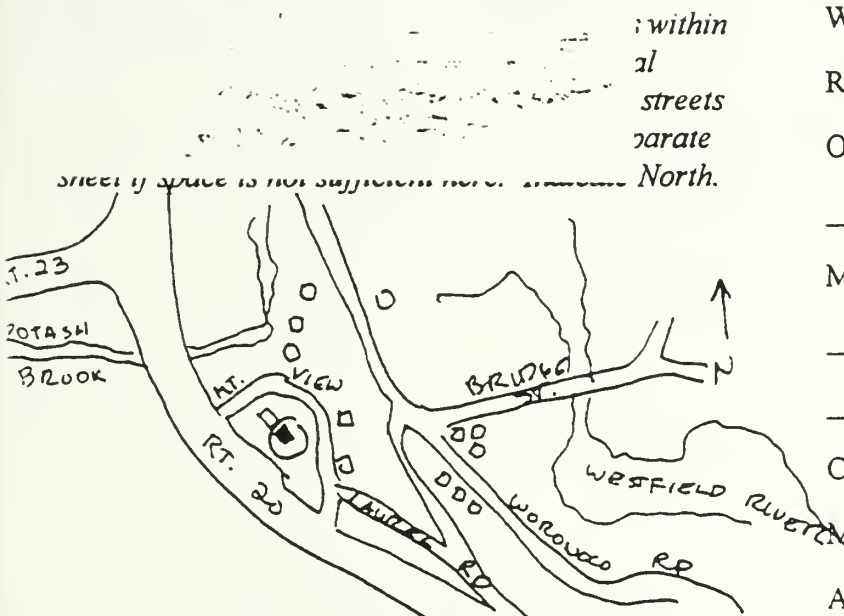
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting On old section of Route 20 behind row of trees



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streets  
parate  
North.

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 10/12/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This multifamily building is almost a duplicate of its adjacent neighbor at 3-4 Mountain View. It is two and a half stories in height under a front gable roof, and has two interior chimneys. Five bays wide and four bays long for a large rectangular plan. There is an enclosed portico entrance on the drive facade which is a later addition. There is little ornament to give the building its Craftsman style designation other than the 6/1 and 9/1 sash, the shingled exterior and fieldstone foundations. Window and door surrounds are unornamented. In fact this building is somewhat more utilitarian than its neighbor since its eaves have less overhang and there are no brackets at the eaves. It is however, a good example of the type of workers housing which was erected during the first quarter of the 20th century in Woronoco. Practicality is its main feature: it is ample in space, well sited and well constructed.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house and its neighbor are the remaining buildings of a row of six multifamily houses built by the Strathmore Paper Company between 1913 and 1918 for mill workers. Two have been torn down on the east and two on the north were also demolished. The group was built as a response to the need for more workers to man the new section of paper making mill known as Mill #2 which was built in in 1913. The need to attract workers by providing good housing was an important factor in the history of the Strathmore Paper Company. In addition to housing, the Company provided a workers' community center, park and playing fields, and sponsored group sports and social activities which built *esprit de corps*. The company has changed hands, the housing sold off or demolished, but Woronoco manages to retain today some of the appearance of its heyday.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L. Atlas and Survey of Hampden County, L. L. Richards and Company, Springfield, 1894.

Higgins, Charles, E. Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address 12 Mt. View Terrace

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Multi-family house

Original Multi family house

Date of Construction c. 1913-1918

Source Higgins, Strathmorean

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under one acre

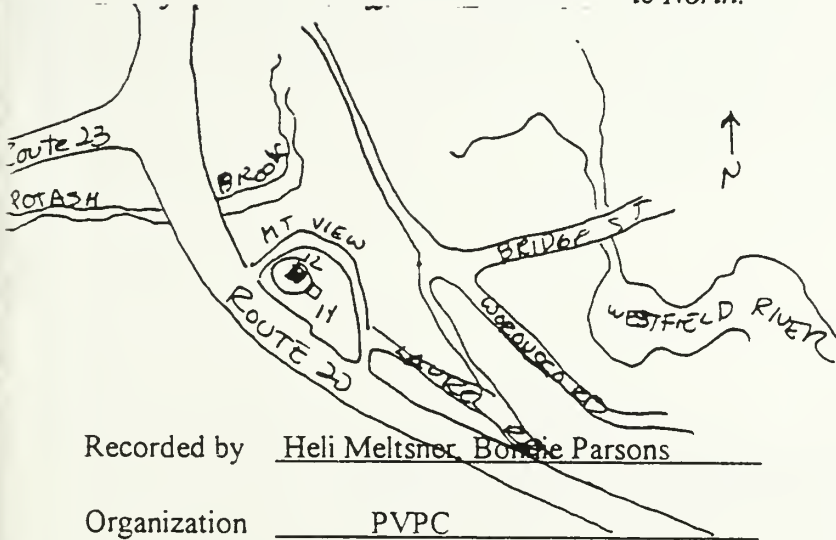
Setting Screened from Route 20 by foliage

and set behind circular drive with fruit trees.



Site the photo. negative

ies within dual el streets separate te North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 14, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is one of a pair of wood shingled, two and a half story, multi-family houses built by the Strathmore Paper Company between 1913 and 1918 for its workers. Like many Craftsman style building it is set on fieldstone foundations. The building mimics the more usual form of smaller front gable houses, expanding it to five bays on the front by four bays deep. It has a wide eaves overhang with three Craftsman bracket supports in the front gables. The shed roof portico over the side hall entry repeats the use of bracket supports. Sash is 9/1, more "old fashioned" than would have been expected. At present there are two units, with one per floor, probably the original organization. Its pair, the house on the right, has no eaves trim, narrower surrounds and an enclosed portico on its side hall, probably an alteration.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house and its neighbor on the right are the remains of a row of six multifamily workers houses constructed by the Strathmore Paper Co. between 1913 and 1918. Two have been torn down on the east and two on the north were also demolished. In 1913 the company constructed Mill #2 across the Westfield River, and constructed sixteen houses that year to accommodate the workers and another nine in 1918. Among the workers at the mill, it was felt that the more well to do lived on this hill, and that the more modest lived closer to the mill buildings in the valley.

The topography and road system have been altered as a result of flooding and road reconstruction. After the flood of 1955, Route 20 was rerouted at a higher level, leaving the old road bed as Woronoco Road. Route 23 was rebuilt on the north side of Potash Brook, rather than at its old location on the south side. Changes in the work force and mill ownership have also altered the landscape. The Strathmore Paper Co. continuously demolished older buildings left by previous paper companies and private residents, and they built new ones to replace them. Many of these have also been torn down in turn.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., N.Y., 1870

L. L. Richards, and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Higgins, Charles, E., Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

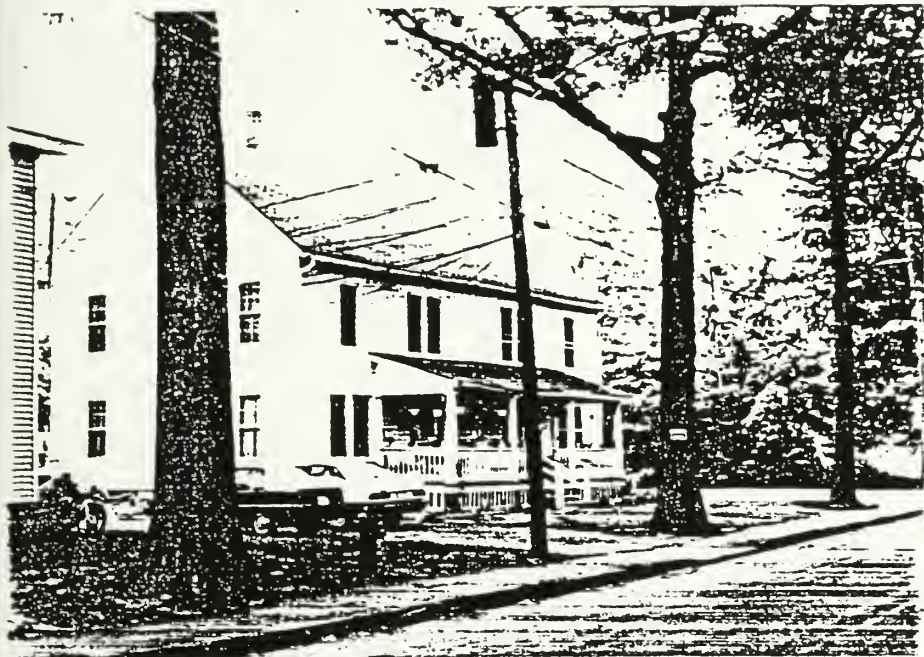
Form Number

[Empty box for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 124 Valley View Avenue

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Multi-Family Dwelling

Original Multi-Family Dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1913-20

Style Higgins, Strathmorean

Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder Strathmore Mills

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

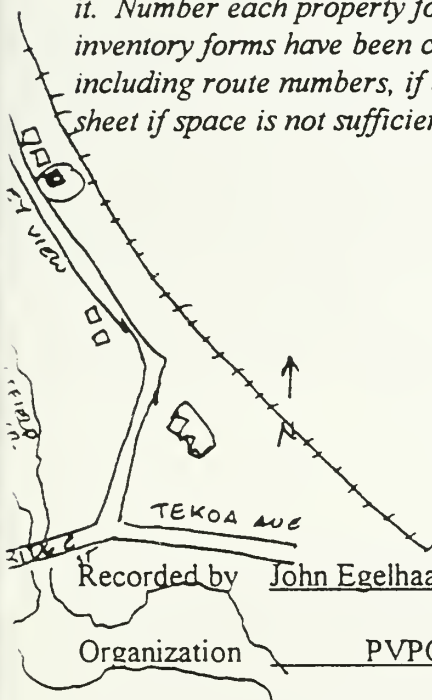
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting On mill village street in group of workers' housing, faces southwest across from river.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 14, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story two-family house was built by the Strathmore Paper Company to house the families of its workers. The best preserved of a group of three similar buildings, it is four bays long under an gable roof. Each half has two bays: paired windows and a door on the first floor and an interior chimney. Sash is 6/2. A shed roof porch centered over the entries in the 2nd and 3rd bays has column supports. The balustrade is a recent addition.

This group of houses was probably built c. 1913 to house the new workers at the recently constructed Mill Number 2 on this east side of the Westfield River.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Valley View Avenue probably existed as a road as early as 1870, when T. Wiliston lived about where the road runs. In 1894 the land was owned by the Fairfield Paper Company, seven small buildings are shown in this area. In 1905 the property was purchased by Horace A. Moses who built the prosperous Strathmore Mill Company. The firm sold its company housing in the mid 1950s.

In an aerial photograph taken c. 1942, Woronoco appears as a neat, compact mill village surrounding the two Strathmore Mills which provided employment for the residents. Valley View Avenue was much more thickly settled: there were at least six or seven houses on this side of the street and seven on the west side, all company built and owned. The southern end of the street was anchored by the large and imposing Strathmore Community Building, a two story brick block designed not unlike a town elementary or high school. Built in 1929, it was a "beehive of activity", housing men's and women's social clubs, religious and educational activities and the focal point of the many sports team activities. The company was family run and paternalistically managed. A community spirit fostered both by housing the workers on company property adjacent to the workplace, and by community activities such as outings, picnics, baseball games and free Thanksgiving turkeys made Woronoco a tightly knit village.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean: Fiftieth Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

19-7-2

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Areas Form Number

[Empty box for Areas Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Address 110 General Knox Road

Local Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c 1850

Map. 1870

Style Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim Vinyl siding, wood corner pilasters

Roof Slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage (1960),

Barn (1960)

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

ell and porch added

Condition Good

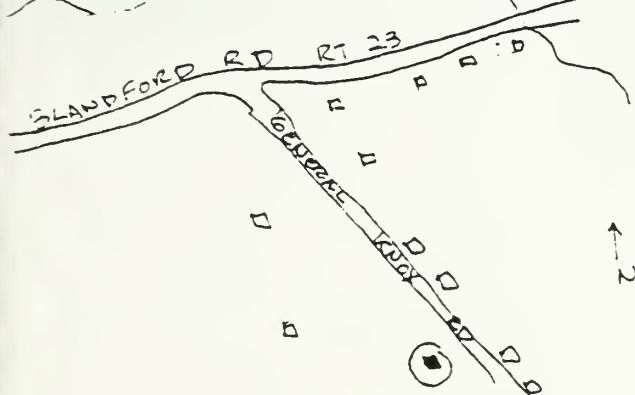
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage More than 10 acres

Setting Facing east on hillside

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story front gable cottage is an excellent example of a locally popular Greek Revival house form, which remained important for many years: the side hall and ell plan. Its three bay temple front recalled the Greek temples the young democracy admired, the ell provided extra space the limited main section could not accommodate. Broad pilasters, a trabeated door surround with 3/4 length sidelights, an architrave at the cornice and 12 over 12 sash are other hallmarks of the style. An interior chimney extends through the ridge line of the main block. The porch across the ell was updated in the Colonial Revival period.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This is the only house shown on the map of 1870 on General Knox Road between Blandford Road and the Bishop house at the intersection of General Knox Road and Birch Hill Road. This area had originally been the center of town settlement, but the poor farming and the advent of the railroad and attendant industrialization in 1841 drew the town center downhill to Russell Center.

W. Holmes, who is listed on this map as owning this house and another at the intersection of General Knox Road and the Blandford Road was a farmer and dairyman. He was one of the few farmers to be listed in the Subscriber's Business Reference on the 1870 map. A school was located next to the house on Blandford Road.

William Holmes served as Selectman in 1860, '70, '71-73, '76, '79-80, '82, '85, '90, '92, and '95-96, he seems to have been a leading citizen of the town.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870

Our Country and its People c. 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (*neighborhood or village*) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 964 South Quarter Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 18140-50

Source Beers, 1870

Style/Form Federal/Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim Aluminum over clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (*with dates*) \_\_\_\_\_

aluminum siding added

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 19.3 ACRES

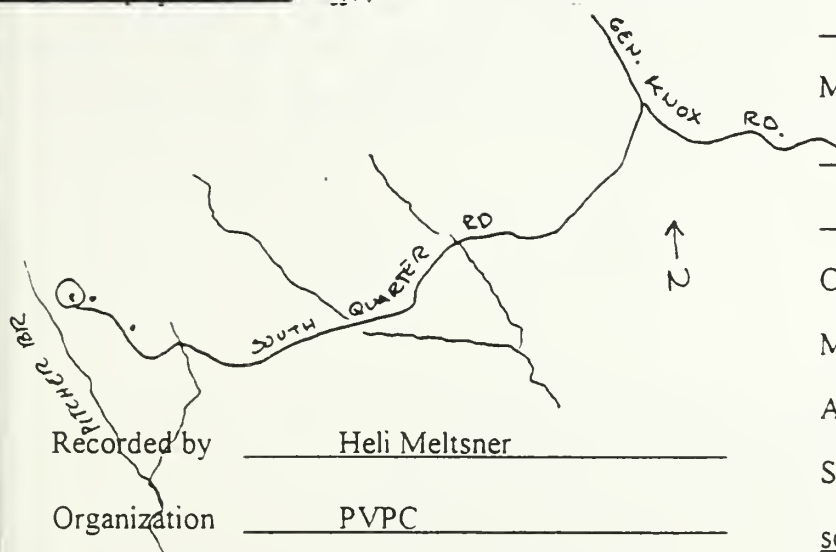
Setting On small hill on rural road, faces

south across from open land



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Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (*month/day/year*) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This three bay, 1 1/3 story house probably was built around the mid 19th century, but the absence of original trim and door surround make it difficult to more accurately date. The south facing house closely resembles another house located on Pomeroy Terrace. Distinctive elements are the three bay facade with center door, small 6/6 windows placed at the roof line, a center chimney, and the roof, which is framed without returns, an unusual feature in mid century building.

The shutters at windows and flanking the door are modern additions.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

South Quarter Road is indicated on the roughly drawn map of 1774 as a Town Road which connected the County Road from Boston, now General Knox Road, to Blandford. On the more precise map of 1831, the road makes a still distinct jog just west of this house to avoid a School House, located on the south side of the road. One of four in Russell, the others were on General Knox Road at Birch Hill Road, Salmon Falls, (Woronoco), and Russell Center. Three of these schools were located in the southern part of town, because before 1841, when the Western Railroad was laid through Russell Center, the most densely settled area in Russell was around Russell Pond and Glasgow Mountain. Most of the early residents were subsistence farmers, loggers and stone cutters. Not until the train made the transportation of goods economic did Russell become industrial.

On the map of 1870 this may have been the Merrill homestead, probably the center of a large farm. Between 1927-1932 the City of Springfield constructed the Cobble Mountain Reservoir south of this farmhouse to provide a source of water for the city. As it was necessary to purchase many acres of watershed land to protect the reservoir, in the 1920s Springfield began buying the already declining farms of this area. Houses in the watershed were demolished, and roads were abandoned. This house is the last on South Quarter Road: the road to the west was abandoned, and is now a trail.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774.

Map, 1831.

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Schlobohm, Dietrich, "Cobble Mountain", in Stone Walls, Spring, 1988.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

USGS Quad

Areas: Form Number

Blandford  
Woronoco

--	--

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

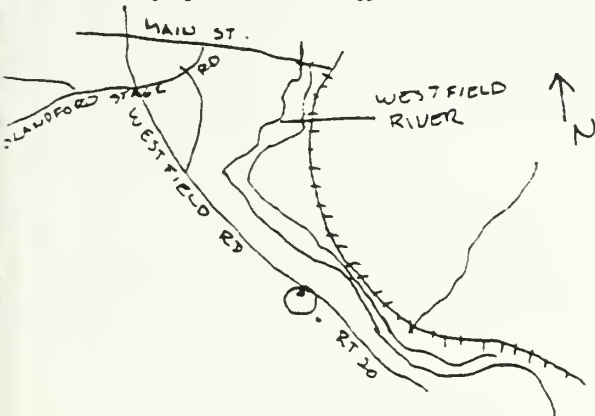
Address 468 Westfield RoadHistoric Name Doolittle TavernUses: Present DwellingOriginal DwellingDate of Construction c. 1791-92Source Springfield Sunday RepublicanStyle/Form Federal

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite and brickWall/Trim VinylRoof Slate with fish-scale pattern shinglesOutbuildings/Secondary Structures Tobacco barn/  
garage c. 1850, shedMajor Alteration (with dates) Vinyl sided.Italianate double door, replacement windows addedCondition fairMoved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_Acreage over 1 acreSetting Faces main road, northeast andWestfield River, grove of blue spruce at side, openfields at either side and sited on a knoll

ii. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.

Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli MeltsnerOrganization PVPCDate (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story house is one of the oldest in Russell, and a good example of the Federal style. It is five bays long under an end gabled roof. The center entrance features a six light transom over double leaf Italianate doors. The doors would have been a modernization of c. 1860-1870. Windows retain their 6/6 sash on the second floor; they have been replaced on the first floor. The eaves have shallow returns, as was common during this period in Russell. A Queen Anne patterned slate roof would have been a roof replacement of the 1880s or 1890s. Attached to the house as a rear ell is a tobacco barn which was converted to farm use.

The interior of this house is said to retain some of its early 19th century historic fabric.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This was the home of Titus Doolittle and his wife Mary, their five sons and three daughters. Before his death in 1818 he was a farmer. He served as moderator at the 2nd Town Meeting after the town was incorporated in 1792, held many other town offices, and was several times Selectman. He and his wife may have begun a tavern in the house.

His son Deacon Titus Junior and his wife, also Mary, were the parents of 11 children. He farmed 200 acres, operated the Doolittle Tavern, and ran the stage line to Albany which ran past his door on the improved 8th Massachusetts Turnpike (1800). Appointed by John Quincy Adams, he was postmaster in 1824. The double set of slots to hold letters in the tavern's public room was still extant in recent memory. He moved west, to western New York in 1828. It was probably this Titus that Copeland describes as "himself a quiet, earnest plodder along life's path, not specially active in public affairs, yet he provided well for his family. One son attained a seat on the bench of the courts in Vermont, and another entered the legal profession in this state, practicing in Hampshire county."

This was also the home of Albert L. Quance, another public spirited citizen. He served the first of at least 14 terms as Selectman in 1882. He "had charge of the work of construction of the admirable state road between Fairfield (Woronoco) and Russell". Some of the open land of the former farm has been preserved as a public golf course.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People, c. 1902.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942. "Russell's 150th Celebration".

Britton, Alice, Archival material and research notes.

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

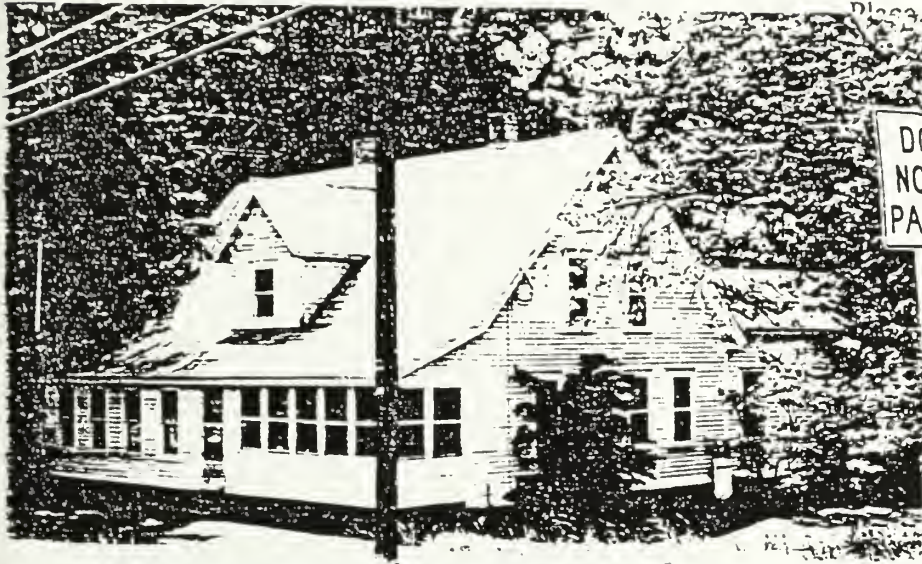
Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place/neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



DCss 360 Westfield Road

NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
PA. \_\_\_\_\_  
ic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

of Construction c. 1850

e map of 1855

Form Gothic Revival/Bungalow

ect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

or Material:

Foundation pressed concrete block

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage (c. 1940)

Major Alteration (with dates) Screened porch filled in

Condition Good

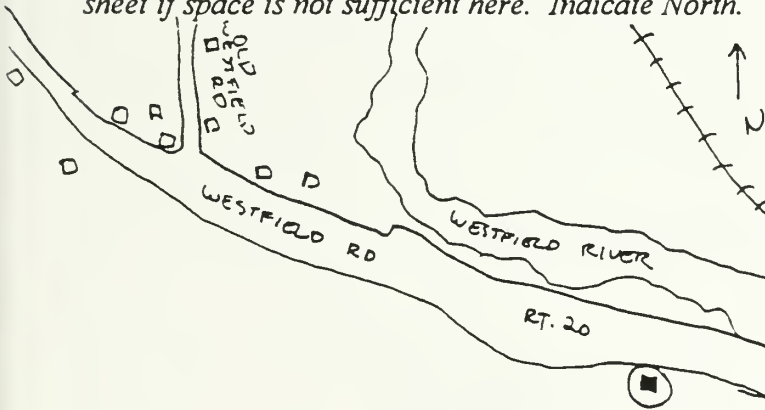
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Over one acre

Setting Set close to the road facing northeast and the Westfield River

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story cottage with its steeply pitched end gable roof appears to date c.1850 and to have been Gothic Revival in style at the time of its construction. Subsequently a porch was added to the north facade which over time became fully enclosed. A rear ell and large centered dormer are additional expansions of the house. Sash is 1/1. The wide eaves overhang may have been decorated originally with brackets or barge boards to give it a Gothic Revival appearance. There are two interior chimneys, which further suggests that the house was remodeled from an earlier building and given new concrete block foundations.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On or near this site in the mid-1800s through the end of the century lived the Bedortha family. Jules or Julius Bedortha was a mechanic, and a Russell Selectman in 1845. After 1872 he may have worked in the new Jessup and Laffin paper mill at Salmon Falls, later the Woronoco and the Strathmore paper mills.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

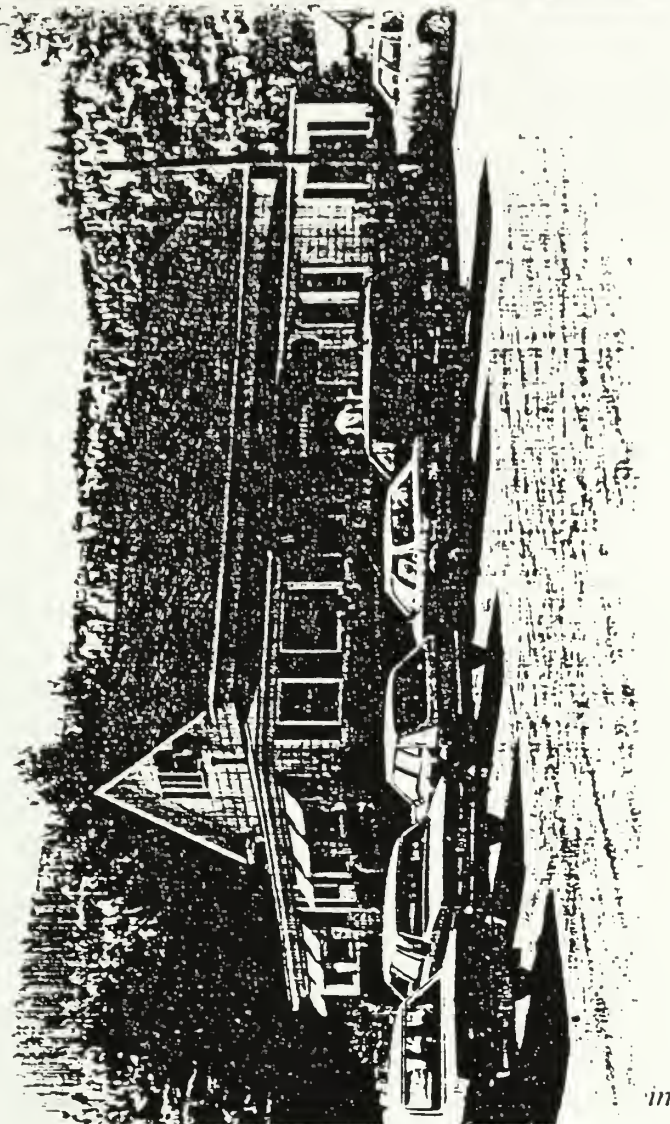
Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

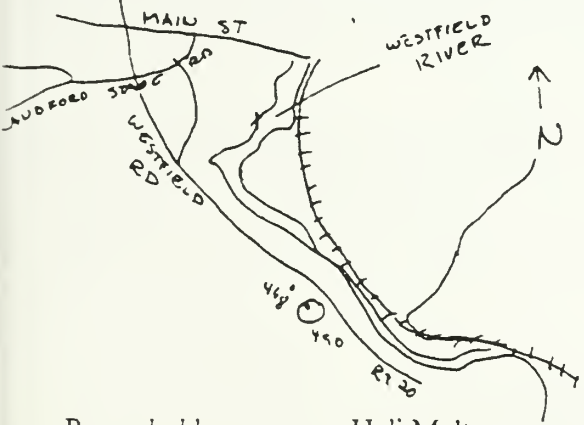
Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People., c. 1902.

MHC, Reconnaissance Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



ii. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner  
 Organization PVPC  
 Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

ESTABLISHMENT Name: Blandford  
Woronoco

Area:                 Town Number:           

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village)           

Address 490 Westfield Road

Historic Name           

Uses: Present Country Club Headquarters

Original Barn?

Date of Construction c. 1875

Source Atlas, 1894

Style/Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder           

Exterior Material:           

Foundation           

Wall/Trim shingle

Roof slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures           

Major Alteration (with dates)           

porch across front facade added and filled

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date           

Acreage c. 251 acres

Setting Set back from the road in open fields

near old farm, across from Westfield River

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This building may have been a barn before it was severely altered when converted to a country club, but it retains its frame construction and long, one story, end gable structure. An important element in its appearance is the roof laid in fish-scale slate tiles, a technique which was used from about 1860 to 1880.. A front porch added to the facade was later filled. The center stove chimney may have been original. On the interior are murals of country life, possibly from the 1930s. In fair condition, they are a good example of their type, one of few remaining in the area.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This building was probably originally a tobacco barn on the property of 468 Westfield Road, the former home of Titus Doolittle and his wife Mary, five sons and three daughters. Before his death in 1818, Doolittle was a farmer, served as moderator at the 2nd Town Meeting after the town was incorporated in 1792, held many other town offices, and was several times Selectman. He and his wife may have run a tavern in the house.

His son Deacon Titus Junior and his wife, also Mary, were the parents of 11 children. Titus Jr. farmed 200 acres, operated the Doolittle Tavern and ran the stage line to Albany which ran past his door on the improved 8th Massachusetts Turnpike (1800). Appointed by John Quincy Adams, he was postmaster in 1824. The double set of slots to hold letters in the tavern's public room was still extant in recent memory. He moved west, to western New York in 1828. It was probably this Titus that Copeland described as "himself a quiet, earnest plodder along life's path, not specially active in public affairs, yet he provided well for his family. One son attained a seat on the bench of the courts in Vermont, and another entered the legal profession in this state, practicing in Hampshire county."

The former tavern was also the home of Albert L. Quance, another public spirited citizen. He served the first of at least 14 terms as Selectman in 1882. He "had charge of the work of construction of the admirable state road between Fairfield (Woronoco) and Russell"

This building is thought to have been a tobacco barn. Tobacco farming was an important part of the economy of the Connecticut Valley in the 19th and early 20th centuries, but as the crop required large, level fields, it was not much grown in hilly Russell. The land of the former farm has been preserved as the Wipperton Country Club, which dates at least as far back as the 1930s. The club was probably developed for the executives of the Strathmore and Westfield Paper companies, many of whom lived outside of Russell.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and Its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "Russell's 150th Celebration".

Britton, Alice, Archival material and research notes.

Richards, I. L., Atlas of Hampshire Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 116 Dickinson Hill Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1835

Source visual analysis

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Asphalt shingle siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Three bay ell added.

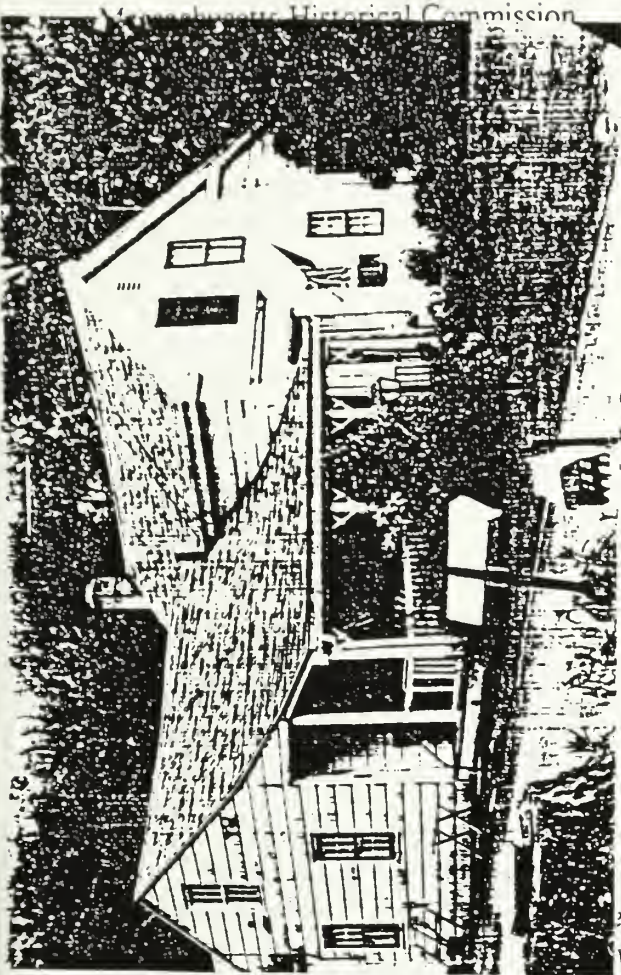
Enclosed porch added. Shed roof dormer, asphalt siding

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Approximately 1/3 acre

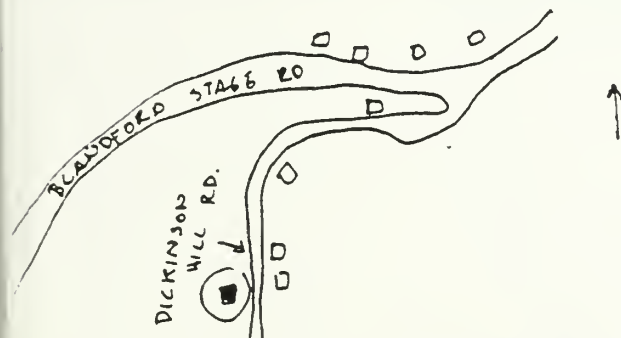
Setting Very close to road. Small grass yard in front. Wooded area surrounding house.



Indicate the photo. negative

Properties within individual

inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is one of a number of one and a half story, end gable Greek Revival farmhouses in Russell. Usually a common house form, the largest concentration is found on Main Street in Russell Center, but there are a few farm houses such as this as well. The three bay gable end is turned to the street to form a temple front, here with the entry in the first bay, a side-hall plan. The one story, three bay ell making an L shaped plan was a frequent strategy to add extra room to the narrow temple form. The porch with Queen Anne style braced brackets was added later in the century.

The entry is emphasized with pilasters supporting a three part entablature, 3/4 length side lights, and a five light transom. Transoms were very popular in Russell in buildings of this period. The house's corner pilasters supporting the deep cornice are paneled, a feature usually found later in the Italianate style. Interesting are the two windows of the second floor facade. Historians sometimes call a house with the windows set this low on the second floor 1 1/3 story houses. The six over six sash throughout the house is original. A garage ell was added circa 1920.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Dickenson Hill Road was an early connector of the 18th century center of town around Russell Pond with the later town focus at Main Street and Blandford Stage Road. On the map of 1831 the road is shown as running through a heavily forested area. A saw mill, one of 8 mills on the map, was located on Stage Brook at about where 342 Blandford Stage Road is presently situated. Most of the residents of this area were farmers and loggers. The road takes its name from Zachariah Dickenson, who lived in the house just to the south, and was Town Clerk in 1837-38.

In 1855, the first map of Russell which shows houses and indicates their owners, this was the home of Stanton S. Clark. He served as Selectman in 1855 and '58. In 1870 it was owned by J. Bronson, a member of one of the founding families of Russell, while a Clark lived in the former Dickenson house.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Map, 1855.

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L. and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Springfield, 1894.

Copeland, Alfred, Our Country and its People, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

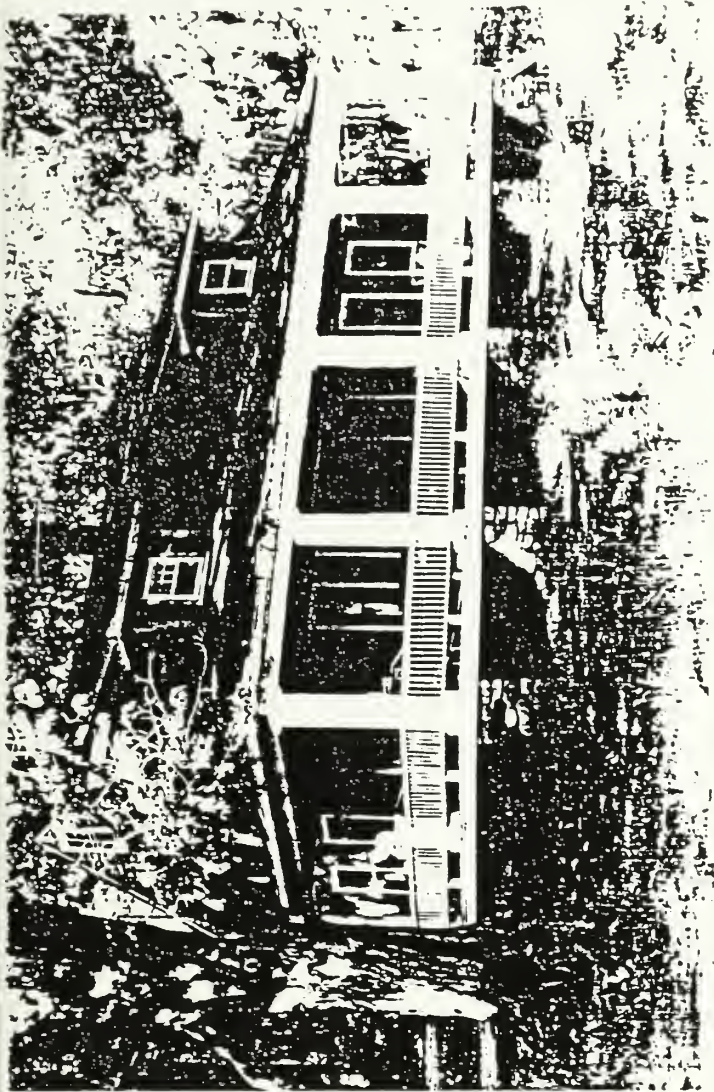
[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Areas Form Number

[ ] [ ]



Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 367 General Knox Road

Historic Name Newman Bishop House

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction 1792 -93

Source Pitoniak, p 10

Style/Form Colonial/Bungalow

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

Major Alteration (with dates) new clapboards.

porch, doors, all fenestration, dormers

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 21 acres

Setting Across Gen Knox Rd from Russell

Pond, north of Pond Brook, in wooded area, at

intersection with Birch Hill Rd



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date (month/day/year) Oct. 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This former farmhouse has lost much of its historic detailing and fabric. However, it may retain something of its original form: a 1 1/2 story, side gabled frame dwelling with the entrance in the center of the five bay south facing elevation and a center chimney location. A c. 1900 porch extends across this elevation with high deck on fieldstone bases and roof supported on square paneled pillars. Two shed roof dormers and small center chimney are probably early 20th century additions, the siding, some windows and the doors are more recent alterations. An attached 1 story ell may have been a former outbuilding. Some of the 6/6 sash may be original.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Although unsympathetically altered, this may be one of Russell's earliest remaining houses. This area around Russell Pond was the first in Russell to be settled by European colonials. A saw mill and fulling mill, possibly on Pond Brook at its outlet from the pond, was located here as early as 1769. Newman Bishop purchased 20 acres of land from Abel Tuttle on February 10, 1792, and built this house that year or the next. Tuttle was Selectman in 1806. Bishop ran the mill with his son. A "revolutionary patriot", Bishop, one of the seventeen or eighteen founding families, died in 1856 aged 97. He was Selectman in 1847 and 1848. His son, who still lived here in 1870, was Selectman in 1850, 54, 57 and '58, and his son was a Selectman like his forebears. In 1894 the house was the property of F. B. Mallory, who may have continued the mills.

The place became the property of the Arthur and later his son Gordon Shattuck. A representation of the homestead in 1912, reproduced as a sketch by Mr. Benway, shows a string of connected outbuildings or barns east of the house, and Pond Brook lined with stones. General Knox Road is shown as further from the house than presently.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774.

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, New York, 1870.

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Pitoniak, Sr., Western Massachusetts History, Westfield, 1970.

Benway, sketches and text.

Everts, Louis, ed., History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol II, Philadelphia, 1879.

Copeland, Alfred M., History of Hampden County, Vol. III, Century Memorial, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

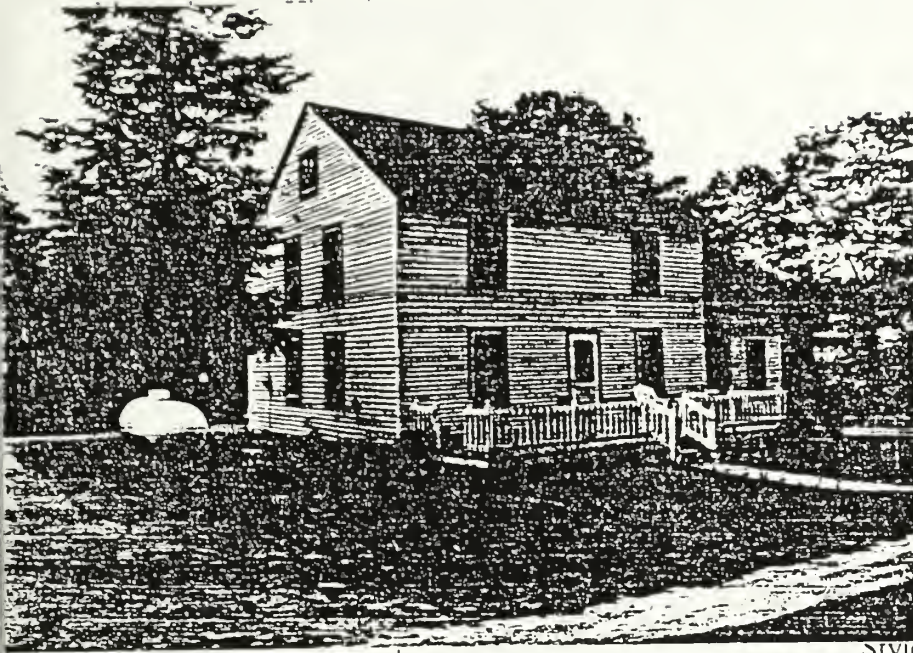
[ ]

SCS Grant

Blandford  
Woronoco

Map Name

[ ] [ ]



town Russell

State (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 205 South Quarter Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Construction c 1800-50

Source Atlas, 1870

Style/Form \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Hay barn

Major Alteration (with dates) Ell at west with

Queen Anne porch. Deck porch at front replaced

Queen Anne porch (c 1880), new clapboard siding

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

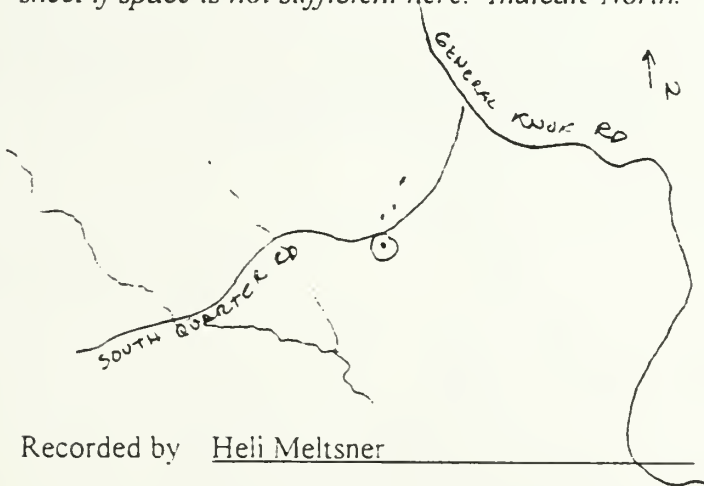
Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting House near the road Lot cleared near the

house but heavily wooded around the exterior

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story, side gable house has been heavily altered but retains its basic shape and window placement. The house may have always been very simply detailed, but the absence of eaves returns and the thin cornice and cornerboards suggest that the roof line was altered and the house resided in the 20th century. The center entry has a plain door surround and the windows, with plain surrounds, retain their six over six sash. An ell at west side has Queen Anne brackets on one story porch: the large Queen Anne porch across the facade was removed recently. A two story barn is appended to house. The attached barn is not infrequently found in Russell.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On the map of 1870, this was the property of G? and F. Williams, probably of the same George W. Williams family who lived just north up the road. Samuel Williams, George W's grandfather, was one of Russell's first settlers. George's three uncles "removed West at an early period." When the west, i.e. the mid-west, opened, many of Russell's farmers and loggers left the steep hills and thin, rocky soil of the hill towns for the richer, flatter country.

From the time that Russell was settled by Europeans until c. 1920, the area around Russell Pond was much more thickly settled than today. It was the first focus of the town, and even in 1870 there were two schools on South Quarter Road, one at its juncture with General Knox Road, and one just east of the now abandoned road, where there had been a school since 1831.

In 1909, after Horace Moses purchased property around Russell Pond for his large Woronoco Heights estate. Herbert Palmer, a teamster, moved from his house at 530 General Knox Road to this house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Map, 1870.

Everts, Louis, ed., History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, Philadelphia, 1879.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

Interview with Ralph Cortis.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

19-1-15

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 965 Blandford Road (Route 23)

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1830

Form \_\_\_\_\_

Form Federal

Architect/Builder William Holmes

Color or Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Cement over rubble stone

Wall/Trim Clapboard siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Two bay

garage. Equipment shed.

Major Alteration (with dates) Five bay ell added.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Over two acres

Setting House close to road but up a steep slope of

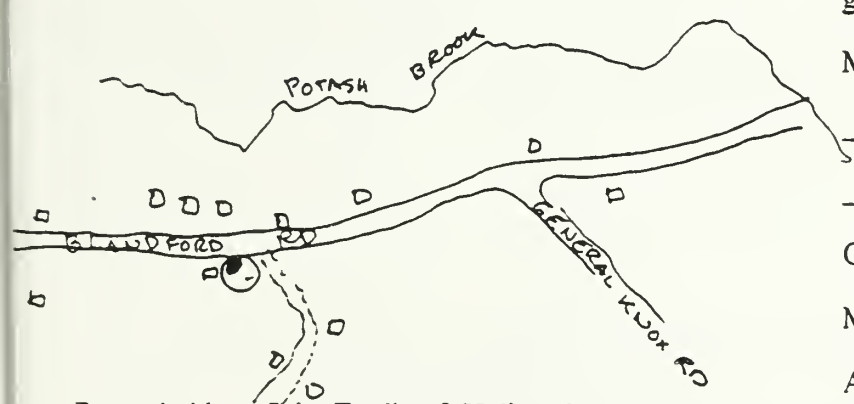
approximately five feet. Heavy barrier vegetation

between road and house. Numerous mature trees.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This very simple cottage has few stylistic elaborations, but its proportions and details are indications of the Federal style. One and a half stories high with an end gable roof, it is four bays long, by two bays wide. The door with plain flat surround and the simplest of cornices is asymmetrically placed in the second bay. A center interior chimney and windows with six over six sash are other Federal style features. A five bay by two bay ell with interior center chimney extends to the rear. The exterior chimney on main block would have been added in the 20th century. The outbuildings appear to date from the 1940s.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is indicated as owned by William Holmes on the maps of 1870 and 1894. Holmes was a Selectman in 1860, '69, '70, '71-'73, '76, '79-80, '82, '85, '90, '92, '95, and '96, a remarkable record of service of over thirty six years.

This area around Blandford Road was well settled in the 19th century. As early as 1849 there was a school at the intersection of Blandford Road and General Knox Road near the home of William Holmes. It is shown on the maps of 1870 and 1894.

This section of the Blandford Road was laid out early. It was part of the Springfield-Albany Turnpike, and in 1829 the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike. It finally was known simply as the Blandford Turnpike.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Pitoniak, Stephen, J., Sr., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area., Westfield, 1970.

Britton, Alice, Research materials and notes.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

5-1--

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area's Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1281 Blandford Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction c 1790

Has deed research on prior form \_\_\_\_\_

Form Federal

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation or Material:

Foundation rubble stone

Wall/Trim clapboard siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn/garage

Major Alteration (with dates) End ell, two gabled dormers, enclosed porch

Condition Poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

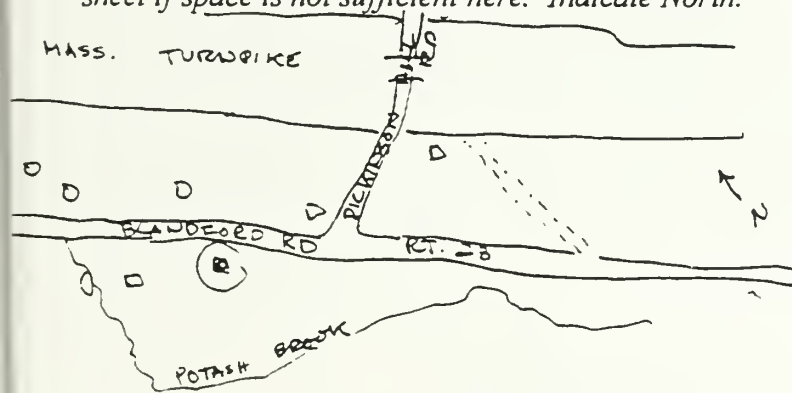
Acreage More than 8 acres

Setting House very close to road. Vegetative barrier screens house from road



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This modest 1 1/2 story cottage is thought to be one of the oldest houses in town, and the only Georgian/Federal style building remaining with a gambrel roof. It has an early (19th c.) 1 1/2 story gable roofed ell with an interior chimney. The main block, five bays long by two bays deep, has two gabled dormers on the north (main) elevation of the wide, deep gambrel roof. Its narrow center chimney is probably a replacement of an earlier chimney in the same position. A small porch joining the main block and the ell has been enclosed with glass since 1974. Windows retain the six over six sash.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On the Plan of the Town of Russell drawn in 1831, what is now named the Blandford Road was called the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike, one of the few through roads in the area. Later the Blandford Turnpike, it ran parallel to the Great Brook (Potash Brook). The land surrounding it was hilly, with forests depicted as closely spaced trees. Most of the houses were the center of farming and/or lumber and saw milling operations. In 1831 there was a saw mill near what would be approximately 504 Blandford Road. In 1870 this house was owned by the W. Heath.

On the Atlas of 1870 a road ran directly behind this farmhouse, intersecting what is now Birch Hill Road and continuing to South Quarter Road. The area south of Blandford Road on the Glasgow Mountain was the first settled area of Russell, and for a long time a church and school were located on General Knox Road at its intersection with the South Quarter Road, while another school was located further east on the Blandford Road at its intersection with General Knox Road. The center of town began its shift to Russell Center about 1826 with the building of a new Baptist meeting house, and more definitively after the opening of the railroad through the center in 1841. About this time, hill town farmers began to emigrate westward to farm the deeper soils of the mid-west, but farming remained an important element of Russell's economy, even after 3 paper mills on the Westfield River brought industrial jobs to the town.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774.

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831.

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co. Springfield, 1894.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "History of Russell".

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

19-6-9

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

862 Blandford Road (Route 23)

Local Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1830 - 1855

Source of Information Owner's deed research

Form Federal

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim Clapboard siding

Roof Tin

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Converted

chicken coop, barn, schoolhouse

Major Alteration (with dates) Two part enclosed

porch added and two ells added.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Approximately three acres.

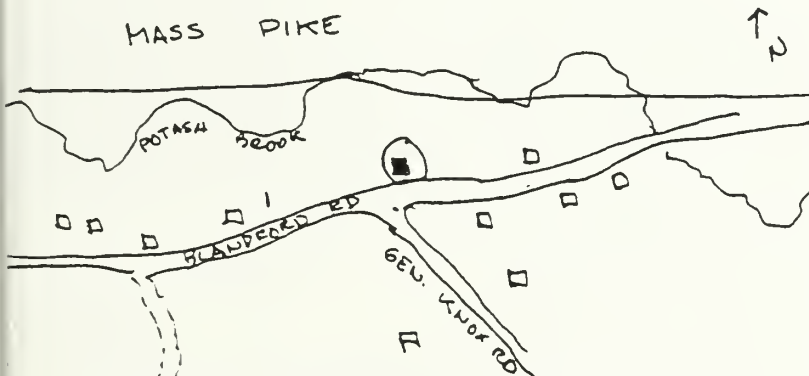
Setting House set perpendicular and close to road.

Lot largely clear of vegetation except for a few

mature trees.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story, side gabled house is L shaped in plan as the result of several additions over time. The main block is three bays long by three bays wide. The first ell on the north is two stories in height and three bays wide with an attached transverse gable on the west. The second ell on the north is a single story gabled ell with a garage entry. The front porch has one and a two story sections which have been enclosed. The shallow pitch of the gable roof, shallow eaves return, center chimney placement, (though perhaps the chimney has been replaced), and six over six sash are all features of the Federal style, indicating a c. 1820-50 date for the house.

The first free standing building north of the house is a single story, front gabled, clapboard building which was originally a school house and appears to have been unaltered on the exterior. A chicken coop which has been converted to other use, and a barn, circa 1890, also stand on the property.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is indicated as belonging to Mrs. Fish on the map of 1870. In 1894 it was owned and farmed by Herb Palmer. "The surname Palmer has long been known in Russell history, both in town affairs and also in the substantial development of the land. Isaac Palmer left four sons...whose descendants are yet in the town and country. A glance at civil records will show how the representatives of this surname have been prominently identified with Russell history." (Copeland, p. 440)

The house is situated at the intersection of the General Knox Trail and Blandford Road. A trail in 1670, in 1776 Gen. Knox used it to haul the heavy cannon from Ticonderoga to Framingham. "Stages began using this road in 1775 and by 1810, there were three stages running daily. In 1827, there were six lines of stages running between Boston and Albany. It was estimated that 45 passengers traveled the route every day." (Pitoniak), p.8) Blandford Road was improved as the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike in 1829 and this house may date from the early Turnpike era.

When Russell was first settled, the intersection of General Knox Road and South Quarter Road was an area of dense settlement. The Second Church, which also served as a Meeting House and a school were located there. After the railroad opened through Russell Center in 1841, the town center shifted, and the church at the crossroads was taken down and used to build a barn in Westfield. The schoolhouse, indicated at this intersection on the map of 1870 burned, and a new one was built by the Dewey Brothers in 1889 as the Peters District School. It was this school which was moved to the Palmer farm.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774.

Map, 1831.

Map, 1870.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People.

Pitoniak, Stephen, Sr., Western Massachusetts History: The Westfield Area, Westfield, 1970.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

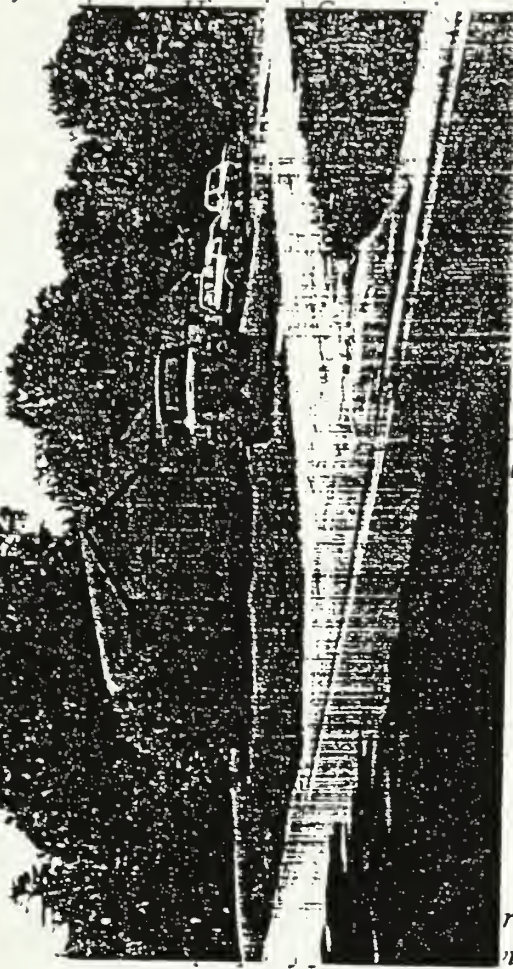
19-8-2

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area

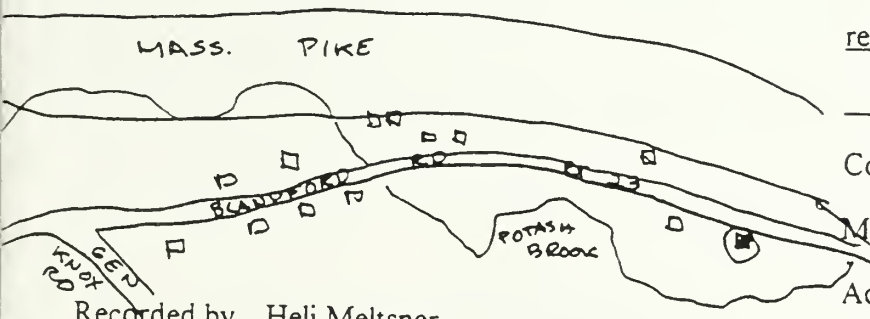
Form Number



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Indicate the parties within individual

inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 655 Blandford Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1820-35, rebuilt 1980s

Source Ralph Cortis

Style/Form Cottage

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation High concrete

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn, trailer, and chicken coop

Major Alteration (with dates) House burned and rebuilt on original foundations

Condition Poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Approximately one and a half acres

Setting Some vegetation directly in front of house  
House set close to the road.

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This asymmetric, four bay cottage, of the simplest organization and architectural embellishment, was originally a two story salt box house with a leanto roof. Rebuilt on its original foundations, it is presently one story high and one bay deep under an end gable roof framed without returns. There are two rear ells. The house has lost its architectural significance, but retains its location.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This was the home site, if not perhaps the home, of L. P. Palmer in the 1870s. The Palmers were among the earliest settlers of Russell, remaining for the most part in the southern part of town, which was settled first.

On the map of 1831 what is now Blandford Road was the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike, a stage coach road connecting to Blandford and the Berkshire Mountain passes. It was opened in 1829. The stream which runs roughly parallel to the road was called Great Brook, by the map of 1870 it was named Potash Brook. The earlier map shows one saw mill on this brook opposite this house, but by 1870 there were 3 more saw mills to the east and a cider mill to the west. A school was located at the junction of the Blandford Road and General Knox Trail.

The population density in the southern part of town in the 1870s is an indication that logging and farming were still the major economic activities of the community. Paper making became a more important source of income in the early 20th century, when the Strathmore, Westfield River and Chapin and Gould Mills along the Westfield River were all producing paper. However, subsistence farming remained an important part of the local economy until the first quarter of the 20th century.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W. Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Interview with Ralph Cortis.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

19-S-1

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

--	--

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 601 Blandford Road

Historic Name Cortis House

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1830-50

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Stone

Wall/Trim Clapboard siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn,

equipment shed and apartment

Major Alteration (with dates) Rear ell added,

extended as barn/woodshed, fenestration altered in

ell, woodshed filled

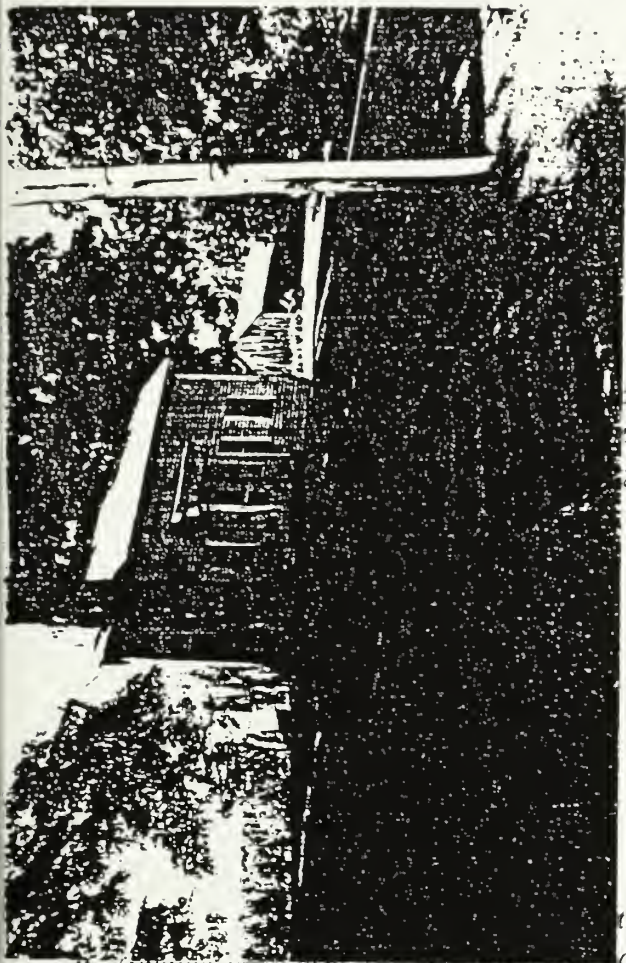
Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Approximately 90 acres

Setting Upslope and about 120 feet from road.

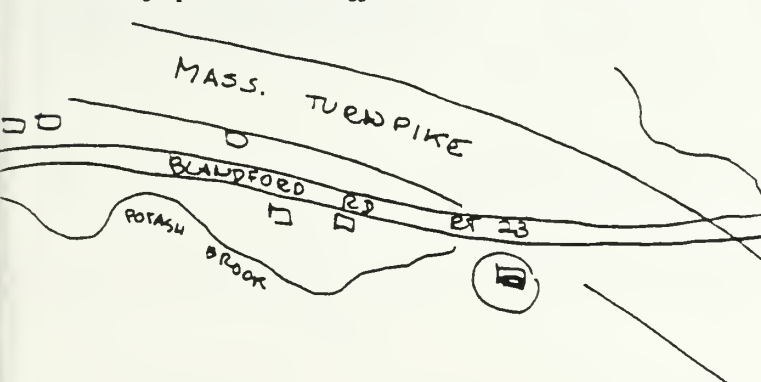
Several large trees in front. Deep lot at rear.



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inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This cottage is difficult to date stylistically, from map evidence or secondary sources. Its form is the most common one, popular from the Georgian to the Italianate periods: five bays with a center entry under a side gable roof. Like many of these houses, it was extended in a rear ell. Here the house is one and one half stories high rather than the more common two or two and one half stories. The portico may date from the Italianate period. It has unique, slender hexagonal columns with a tall plain capitals. The transom over the simply enframed door with one light, six over six sash and wide cornice suggest the Federal or Greek revival period of construction.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1829 what is now Blandford Road was improved as the Hampden and Berkshire Turnpike connecting Blandford to Westfield. A toll house for the collection of the toll was located in Blandford. The road paralleled the Potash Brook, which was used to power saw mills. One such mill is located on the 1831 map not far from this house. In 1870 there were three saw mills and a cider mill on the brook. In 1955 the brook flooded, washing out the lower part of the road near Woronoco, and required not only extensive rebuilding but rerouting. Today another toll road, the Massachusetts Turnpike, parallels the old road at this section, a reminder of the influence of geography on transportation routes..

In the late 18th century and early 19th century, this southern part of Russell was the most populous. A school was located on this road to the west at its intersection with General Knox Road, another was on Knox at South Quarter Road while a third was on South Quarter Road near the border with Blandford. Three major factors reduced the number of settlers here in the 20th century: the abandonment of farms for the richer farm land in the west, the purchase of many farms by Horace Moses, owner of the Strathmore Mills, and the construction of the Cobble Mountain Dam and Reservoir by the City of Springfield in 1929 .

This farm contained, in the late 19th century, about 100 acres when it was the home of the Cortis family. The Massachusetts Turnpike, which was constructed through the property in 1955, took 7 1/2 acres. Good transportation routes, like the turnpike, had the effect of making further inroads on Russell's agricultural economy, as produce from rich farmlands like the mid-west and California could be cheaply shipped to Eastern markets.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Pitoniak, Stephen, J., Sr., Western Massachusetts History, Westfield, 1970.

Interview, Ralph Cortis.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Woronoco

Address 83 Blandford Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1860-1869

Source Atlas, 1870

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

garage

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

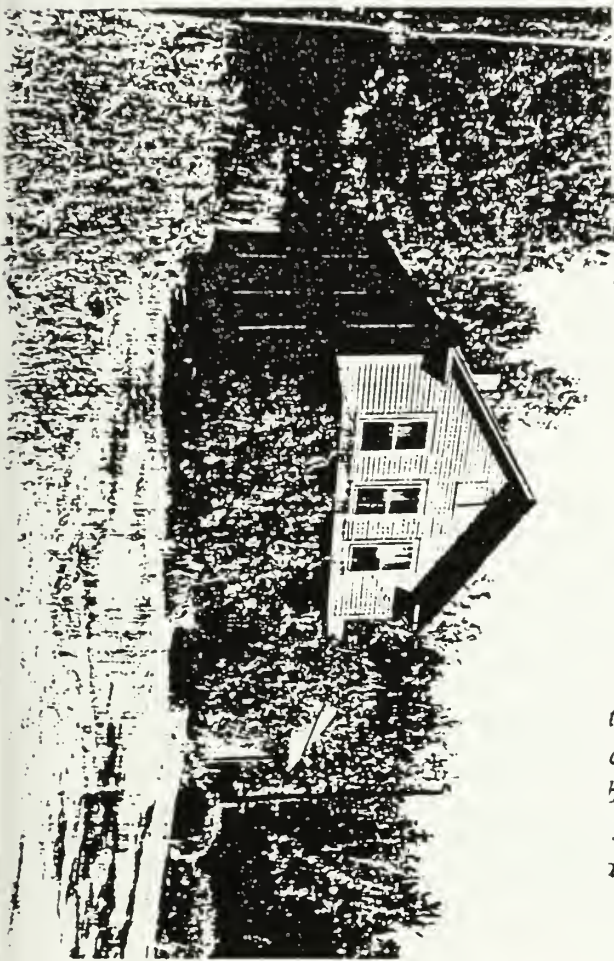
Acreage 6.7 acres

Setting House originally faced south on Old

Route 23, now its rear faces north on 1956 Rt. 23

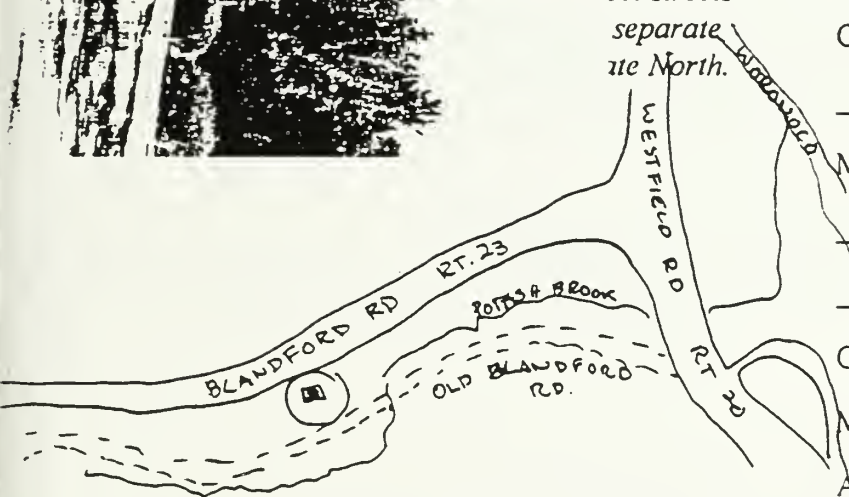
Near Pond Brook pond, saw mill foundations and

dam.



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Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

Although there are several good examples of Italianate style building in Russell, the local practice in the style was quite muted, as in this house of restrained decoration. The L shaped, 2 1/2 story frame dwelling was built to a common house design around the mid-19th century. It is three bays wide, with the entry in the gable end turned to the road, which then ran in front of the house. An ell on the north may be original: it has a center interior chimney and a door hood on braces.. A porch across the facade of the main block is elaborated with arched Italianate brackets. An arched window in the gable field is a distinctive feature of the Italianate style. Window sash is 2/2, possibly an early 19th century alteration. A well is located in the side yard.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built on the north side of the old Blandford Road facing south, but after the flood of 1955, the road was rebuilt north of the house, leaving it between the old and new roads. Although located quite close to the village of Woronoco, the house was probably not built by the paper mill which was constructed there in 1872. The atlas of 1870 indicates its owner as J. Grouch. It appears to have been associated with a saw mill located on a pond formed by Pond Brook, which empties out of Russell Pond. Two other saw mills are represented on the map quite close to this house, and another saw mill and a cider mill were located further to the west off Blandford Road, as streams were harnessed to cut the abundant wood of the near by hills..

The 1827 diary of Vestus Parks, who operated the sawmill to the southwest in 1870, chronicles his life running a power mill, possibly at the same site. He describes catching 178 fish in the course of one half hour, picking strawberries, playing ball, getting wood, hunting squirrels, fox, turkey and wildcat. fixing fences and binding rye and peddling goods.

The pond became part of the water system of the Fairfield Paper Company mill. The firm owned about 1,000 acres of land and had the right to draw water from Hazzard, now Russell, Pond. The water was held in the pond located just east of the house and used in the paper making process. In 1912 the Strathmore Paper Company, later owners of the mill, owned the house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Bradley, Edward, "Life Flowed Slowly Down by the Old Mill Stream, Or Did It?", in Stone Walls, Winter, 1979.

Warren, Charles, Picturesque Hampden, "The Fairfield Paper Company", Northhampden, 1891.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 260 Upper Moss Hill Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction 1936

Current Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Form Neo-Colonial

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim Vinyl siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Carriage house-

Barn-Utility structure

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage More than five acres

Setting Home set off of road, near the edge of hill

with extensive views of surrounding hills at

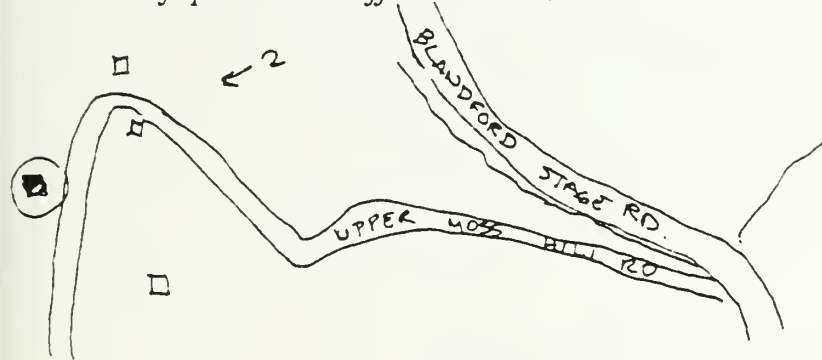
rear. Excepting the carriage house, outbuildings set

across the road.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a good example of the Neo-Colonial houses which were built in numbers by builders throughout the northeast from the 1920s through the present. One and a half stories high under a gable roof, it mimics the Georgian/Federal form of five bays on the long side and a center entrance. Here the windows are paired, and a long, shed roof dormer, unknown in the earlier precedent, gives extra room to second floor living. The door surround, like those of its prototype, is trabeated with 3/4 length sidelights, but here the entablature lacks a cornice. The exterior chimney and sun porch are typical features of the Neo-Colonial style.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This site, and possibly some of the outbuildings, were the property of the D. Parks family. Members of the Parks family lived here from at least 1855 through 1894. In the last year, D. Parks had six outbuildings and farmed both sides of the road. This might well have been Dexter Parks, listed on the Atlas of 1870 as a farmer and stock raiser, one of few in town to be so listed, so he must have been one of its leading farmers. The land stretching from Upper Moss Road to Pine Brook Road was the location of Russell's largest farms during the 19th century. According to *History of the Connecticut Valley*, around 1879 there were about 75 farms in town, "but the agricultural products are all consumed at home." Farming, cattle and lumbering were still important to the local economy around 1900, and although it may have been generally true that farmers grew mostly for their own consumption, Russell farmers played a limited role in supplying produce to the surrounding area as well.

The old farmhouse burned down and was replaced by this house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

Map, 1870

Beers, S.W. *Atlas of Hampden Co.*, Beers, Ellis & Soule, New York, 1894.

Copeland, Alfred (ed). *Our County and its People*, Century Memorial, c. 1902.

*History of the Connecticut Valley*, vol. 2, Lippincott, Philadelphia, c. 1879.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

9-2-1

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

Empty boxes for area and form number.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Crescent Mills

s 1190 Huntington Road

Local Name Crescent Mills

Present Industrial

Original Industrial

Year of Construction c. 1870

Source History of Connecticut Valley, p. 1100

Historic Form 19th and 20th cent. industrial

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Brick, stone, concrete

Wall/Trim Brick

Roof Asphalt shingle, tar, gravel

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Electrical

transformers

Major Alteration (with dates) Additions, 1870s-

1960s.

Condition Fair

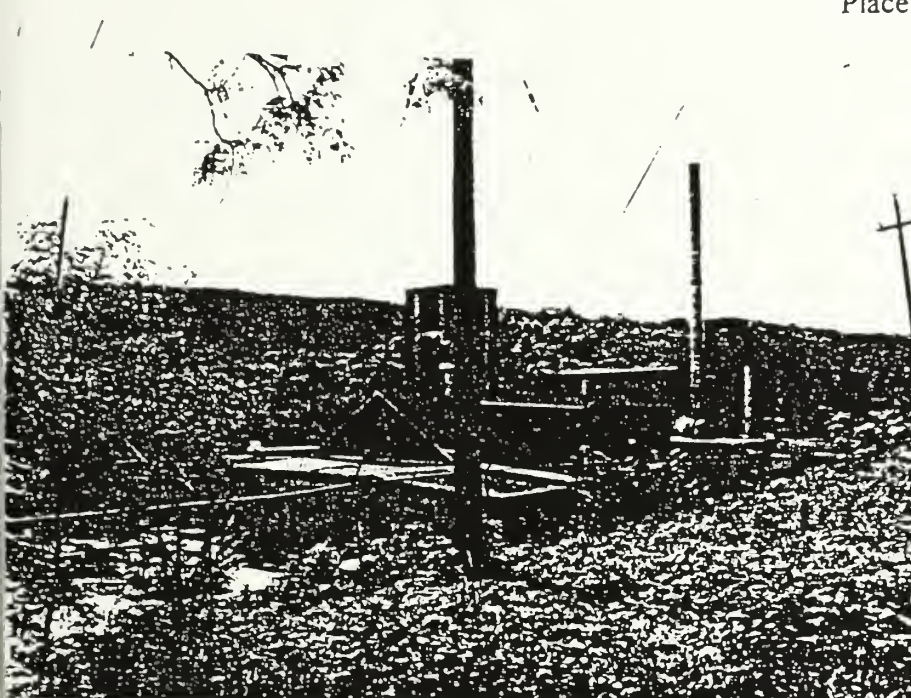
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 9 acres

Setting Set on western side of the westfield

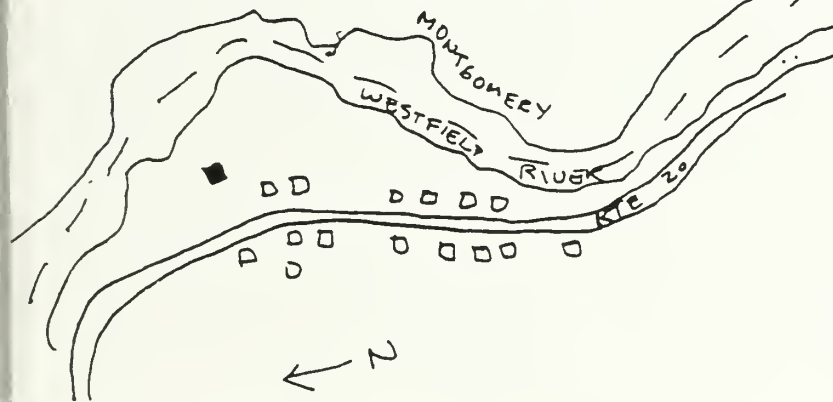
river on downslope between major old road and

river, in old mill village



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The two building core of this mill complex was constructed of red brick in 1870. The long, gable roofed buildings may incorporate some masonry from earlier buildings on the site: for example the ground floor wall of the 3 story block south elevation. Laid out parallel to the Westfield River, the two older sections are presently surrounded by one story additions, including a 2 story aluminum tower,(1968-1969) which housed an paper pulp aerator, and chimneys. A vertical turbine is located in the lower part of the upstream building. It is powered by the vertical 45-50 foot drop from the dam. Though the turbine no longer powers the mill, it is run as an independent power company. The one story main block has symmetrically arched windows and dentilled cornice brick work. The three and a half story main section is 13 bays long with same fenestration, brick ornamental cornice and short returns. Its first story is dressed random granite block with brick. Windows have brownstone sills and have 12/12 sash; replacement sash, probably from the first decades of the 20th century, is casement 2/8. An ell five bays deep with a stair tower (1940) was added to the one story block's west elevation, and a rear ell (1920s) was built on the 3 story block's west elevation. Continued

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Crescent Falls of the Westfield River were harnessed in the 19th century for the energy to power a grist mill owned by a Mr. Stowell, and in 1818 a small cotton mill owned by Thomas Frye. After the opening of the Western Railway in 1841, (later the Boston and Albany), a paper mill owned by Elijah Smith of Lee and Cyrus W. Field of Springfield was established. Field is said to have invested his earnings from its sale in the laying of the first trans-Atlantic cable. In 1858 Henry A. Gould and Charles C. Chapin of Springfield bought the mill and water rights and constructed new mill buildings and a new dam. In a fire in 1870 the mill burned, and these buildings were built immediately "of a much larger capacity than the first". [*History of the Connecticut Valley*, Vol. 2, p. 1100] In the 1870s the mill employed about 100 people in the production of fine writing and ledger papers. By c. 1885 the complex had expanded to about five major buildings. A boarding house, a collection of tenements and a school lined the single main road to Huntington. The owners were seen as progressive, having the best paper making machinery and constructing a well maintained village for their employees. A power plant was built for the mill and electricity was extended to the village at the same time.

Continued

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Michael Winn interview

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, , 1894.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2, c. 1879

Kites, C. L. , "Pioneer Paper Mill Goes Modern", Springfield Sunday Union and Republican, Sept. 2, 1945.

RUSSELL

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION Continued

These buildings retain a great deal of their historic design and material, though accretions over the years somewhat obscure their original appearance. A drawing of the mill complex taken from the east bank of the river c. 1885 shows an extensive complex of at least five large brick buildings, several have been demolished. The buildings, similar in design and materials, were built into the hill so that the river side was a full story taller than the road side. A canal carried the mill race, then as now, under the 1 story building. Several small, one story frame buildings were located on the river bank south of the mill.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE Continued

The mill was one of Russell's major employers, and the reason for the development of Crescent Mills village. In the last quarter of the 19th century and until World War I, the village was a tightly knit community, sporting a baseball team, and producing locally created theatricals.

The mill was family run, and a year before the death of Charles L. Chapin, son of the founder, the firm went into bankruptcy. The bank foreclosed the mortgage in 1936. In 1939 the complex was leased to the Du Pont Company to produce Texon, a latex saturated paper product used in a variety of goods such as shoe innersoles and synthetic leather. Wartime shortages of leather caused the synthetic leather industry to prosper. Du Pont purchased the mill complex in 1944 but not the housing, which was sold off.

The plant continued to be operated by Du Pont until it was purchased by a group of employees in 1947. Renamed Texon, it employed 47 people at its inception, but afterwards grew rapidly. It expanded this complex and opened other plants in Holyoke, Chicopee Falls, Westfield and France. Competition and the development of plastics caused a decline in sales and economic instability in the 1980s and 90s.





FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

9-1-09

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

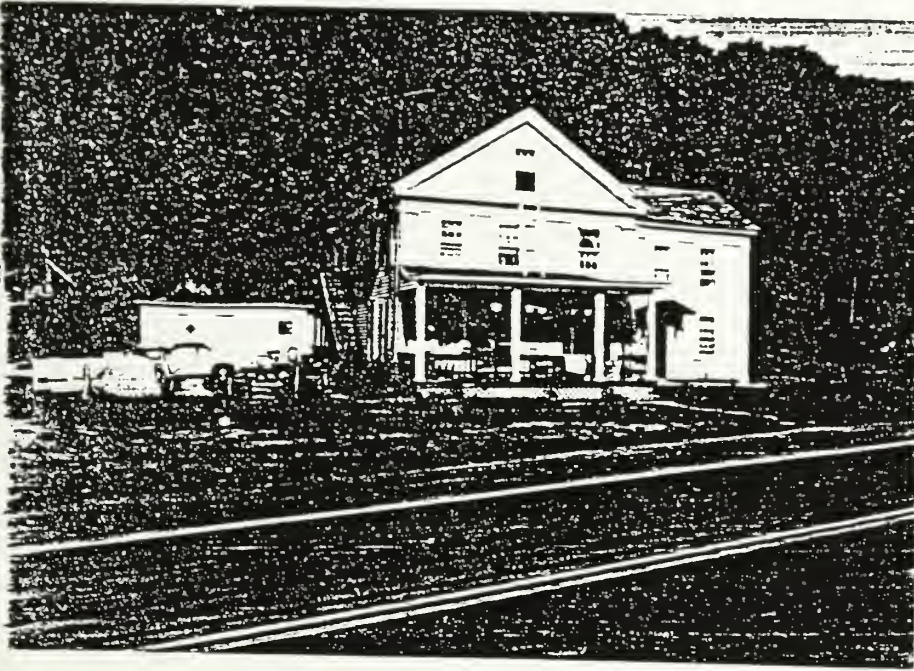
Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Crescent Mills

Address 1185 Huntington Road

Historic Name Gould

Present Multi-Family

Original Single Family

Period of Construction c. 1838-1845

Map 1855 map

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Shed roof garage (c. 1930) shingled

Major Alteration (with dates) Two story porch c. 1960, door hood c. 1930, extension (west) and porch (south), exterior chimney, 2 doors replaced, siding, exterior stairs and door added

Condition Fair

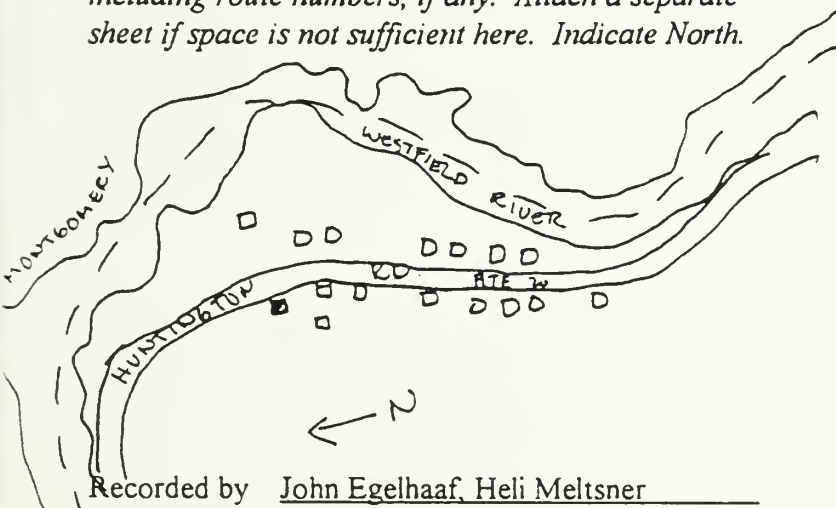
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under one acre

Setting Across old major road from mill, backed by steep wooded hill with rock outcroppings

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The residence of mill owner Henry A. Gould, this is one of Russell's four or five high style Greek Revival houses, and a fine example of the style. It is L shaped in plan and two and a half stories under a front gabled roof. The three bay gable is turned to the street to allow for a temple form, while the cross gable wing set back from the facade provides extra room. The detailing is particularly fine. Important is the very wide, richly embellished door surround composed of a paneled architrave surround with corner blocks and an overlarge central block. Wide corner pilasters with Doric capitals support a plain entablature on main block and ell. The 6/6 windows have molded surrounds with corner blocks: the full length first floor windows are a typical feature of high style Greek Revival houses. The house was extended to the rear at a later date.

In the early 1900s the house was shingled and a Colonial Revival porch with a kneewall was built to wrap two sides of the facade. The extensive yard was shaded by a big horse chestnut tree, a fringe tree, a hemlock and several varieties of pear. On the hillside close to the house was an apple orchard, a few peach trees, three grape arbors and a vegetable garden. The yard was surrounded with a white picket fence. Recent unsympathetic alterations have diminished but not obviated its stylistic integrity.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Crescent Falls of the Westfield River were harnessed in the 19th century for the energy to power a grist mill owned by a Mr. Stowell, and after the opening of the Western Railway in 1841, (later the Boston and Albany), a paper mill owned by Elijah Smith of Lee and Cyrus W. Field of Springfield. Field is said to have invested his earnings from its sale in the laying of the first trans-Atlantic cable. In 1858 Henry A. Gould and Charles C. Chapin of Springfield bought the mill and water rights and constructed new mill buildings and a new dam. In the 1870s the mill employed about 100 people in the production of fine writing papers. A boarding house, and a collection of tenements lined the single main road to Huntington. The mill, which built the present workers' housing adjacent to the mill, continued until 1938, when it was bankrupted. In the mid 1940s the housing was sold off and after a short period when it was operated by duPont, it was purchased in 1947 by Texon, makers of a latex saturated paper.

This is clearly the home of the mill owner. It could have been built for partner Henry A. Gould, who owned this house in 1870 and lived here at some period, but it is not clear that he built it, as the house was probably built before 1858. It could well have been built by either John Gould, who had a store here from 1806, Smith or Field. Between 1865 and 1900 the mill Supervisor was a man named Kites. As representatives of the absentee mill owner, the Supervisor's family lived here from the the 1870s to 1891, when they moved to Springfield. A long and glowing reminiscence of the hamlet and this house by Kites' son Clifford was published in the newspapers in 1945 and privately expanded in 1961.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870

Kites, Clifford L. "I Remember Crescent Mills", The Springfield Republican, Sept. 2, 1945, also unpub., 1961.

MHC, Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston 1982.

x *National Register*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

9-2-00

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area's Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Crescent Mills

Address 1104 Huntington Road

Local Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original School

Year of Construction c. 1875

Map, 1870

Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Shed (c 1980)

Major Alteration (with dates) One story

added (north), one story addition or infill porch

(northwest)

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting In old mill village, on a hill facing

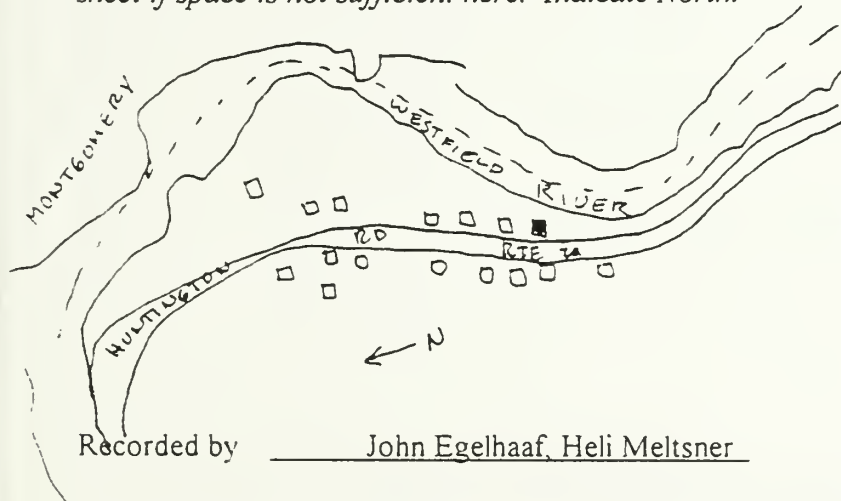
main street, land falls steeply away at rear, stairs set

into hill from street.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story, two bay, "L" shaped gable house has few stylistic details. Clues to its Italianate style are the high brick foundation, deep returns on the eaves, and general proportions. The door hood may be a replacement of an Italianate stock hood. This two bay, side hall and L shaped house form was very popular in Russell over a long period of time.

This is one of few single family houses in Crescent Mills, as the majority of residences were built by the mill for their workers as multi-family or two family homes. However, like these mill-built structures, it is set back from the street at an equal distance to form a street wall.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Crescent Mills is located at a spot where the Westfield River makes a very large bend, or crescent, and at the same time takes a drop substantial enough to power a mill. A grist mill was built here in the late 18th or early 19th century, which was later operated by Elijah Smith and Cyrus W. Field. The property and water rights were sold to Chapin and Gould, who built the town's first paper mill in 1858. The mill prospered, in the late 19th century, and to house its work force, the company built multi-family houses along the Huntington Road. Chapin and Gould built this as the first school for the mill workers' children. The second village school stood directly across the street, and the third, the brick school house is just north west of this building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870

Richardson, L. L.. Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co. MA, Springfield, 1894.

History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. 2.

Springfield Republican, June 28, 1942, "Russell 150th Birthday".

Alice Britton, interview.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

12-2-05

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

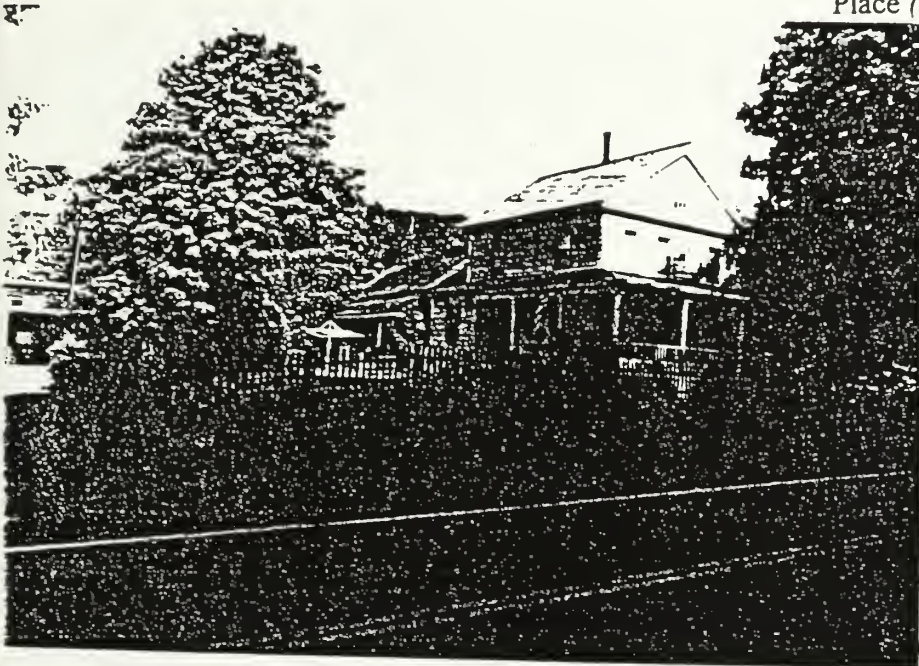
Area(s) Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



247 Huntington Road

Name John Hawley Tavern

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling, tavern

Construction c. 1795-1800

History of the Conn. River Valley

Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof Slate on main block, tar on porch, tar over tin on ell.

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) Ell on west end, porch added to east and south of main block

Condition Good

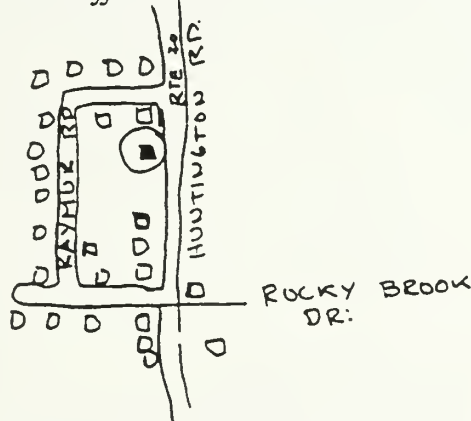
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 14 acres

Setting Close to road with picket fence across front. Mature maple trees at northeast and southwest corners of lot. Gravel drive south.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 16, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This 2 1/2 story house is thought to have been a tavern in the late 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century, but it must have been heavily remodeled in the mid 19th century. This is seen in its orientation to the street, with a three bay temple form achieved by making the end gable elevation the main one, and by having the eaves make a full return to form a closed, full pediment with a wide cornice. The horizontal, multipaned window centered on the gable field is a typical local Greek Revival practice. A porch with chamfered corner posts, probably added c 1910, wraps around east and south of main block and resumes at south side of ell. The 1/1 sash and thin center interior chimney are later renovations.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

John Hawley, who gave his name to this house, was one of Russell's first settlers. He kept a tavern here until the late 1790s or early 1800s. Shortly after 1800 a Mr. Day ran the tavern, keeping it until 1848. Writing about 1879, a local chronicler stated that it had been known as Hawley's Tavern earlier in the century. A copy of what appears to be a deed drawn in 1825 describes Hawley as Inn Keeper of Russell. It shows that he farmed the 160 acres, which stretched on the east to the Westfield River.

About 1792, the same time as the town of Russell became independent from Westfield, what is now Route 20 was improved as the primary highway link from the Connecticut Valley to the Berkshires. Then in 1800 this road was again improved as the Eighth Massachusetts Turnpike through Russell Center to the Housatonic Valley. The tavern was probably kept to lodge travelers on this road.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

MHC, MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

History of the Connecticut River Valley, Vol., II. Lippencott, Philadelphia, 1879.

Copeland, Alfred M., Our County and its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-0-11

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

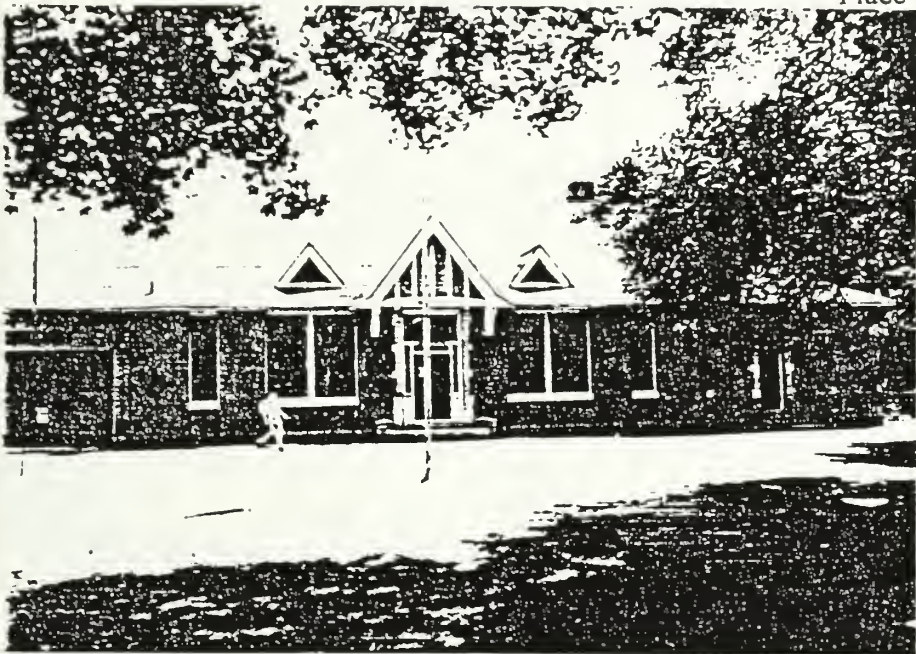
Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 162 Main Street

Common Name Russell Elementary School

Present Library and fire station

Original School

Year of Construction 1923

Source Britton, Alice, historic files

Style/Form Neo-Tudor

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Brick, wood and stucco

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Fire doors added, altered as a Library/Fire House c. 1958

Condition good

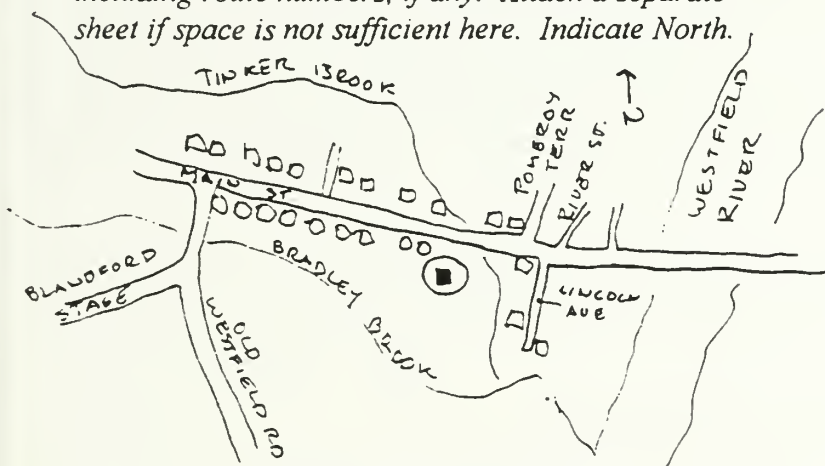
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres On 45 acre lot

Setting Set on Main Street in town center, lot extends to rear as Town land, building set back from street

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This Tudor Revival building was constructed by the Town Of Russell as an elementary school in 1923. It was designed to complement the Town Hall, also on Main Street, which was designed in the same style in 1915. The former school is a much more modest building. Built of brick with stucco and concrete trim, it is one story high under a steep end gable roof. The long facade is relieved by a half timbered gabled hood on heavy braces centered on the roof between two triangular dormer window openings. The small amount of half timbering, being merely a veneer rather than a necessary building technique, was decorative in intent. Also decorative is the concrete trim around the two remaining original door openings, which was designed to resemble the stone quoins which strengthened medieval buildings, and the plinth of brick soldiers which surrounds the building.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Russell has a long and full history of recycling its public buildings. An early elementary school serving Russell Center was built on Blandford Stage Road in 1848. It was located at about where Route 20 runs past the Russell Inn. When the Baptists occupied their new church on Main Street in 1853, the old Baptist Meeting House on Blandford Stage Road, rebuilt in 1825 on the site of its 1792 Meeting House, became available. The Town purchased it in 1866 for \$700 and remodeled it as a school, with a room upstairs for the Town Hall. The original 1848 school, then vacant, was purchased in 1867 by Jarvis Gibbs, moved down the street by oxen to 20 Blandford Stage Road and remodeled as a two family house. The town eventually outgrew its Town Hall over the school in the 1825 meeting house/school building, so it met in the Red Men's Hall, now the Huntington Lodge on Main Street until the new Town Hall on Main Street was built in 1915. The new Town Hall housed the Library and Fire Department as well as Town offices and meeting rooms.

The Russell Center elementary school remained in the 1825 Meeting house/school/Town Hall for nearly 100 years, until 1923, when the Town built this school. The 1825 building was remodeled as a house and stands on its original site at 46 Blandford Stage Road. An addition made to it c. 1912-14 was moved over to Westfield Road and converted to the Russell Inn in 1924.

The elementary school remained in this building until 1957 when a new elementary school was constructed on Highland Avenue. The Library and Fire Department then moved out of the Town Hall, and this building was remodeled to accommodate them.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N. Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Britton, Alice, Unpublished papers in collected historical files.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-29

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 95 Main Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Use Dwelling

Original Use Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1855- 60

Reference Maps, 1855 and 1870

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Rubble stone

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Garage/carriage house with cupola

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

North side has

added Queen Anne porch with a flight of stairs to

second story, porch supports behind columnettes

Condition Good

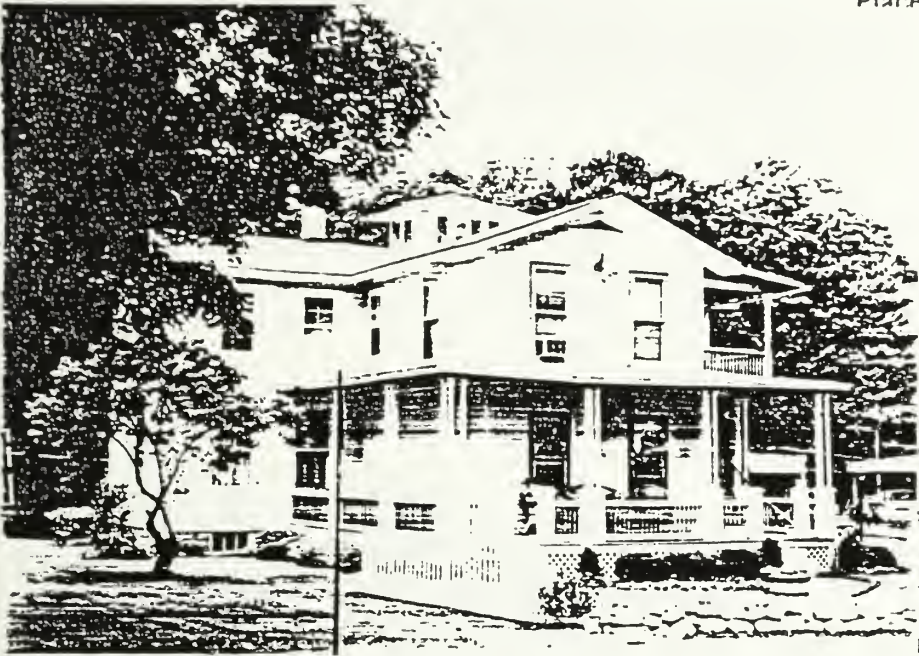
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Stone wall recently built in front,

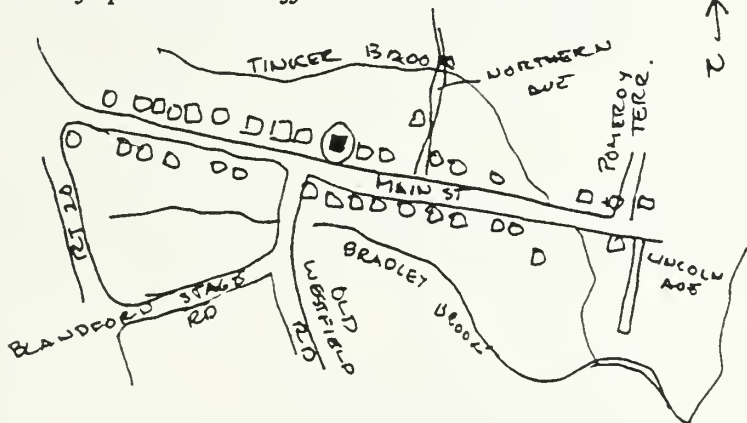
house close to street, driveway on east side, narrow

rectangular lot steep upslope at rear



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This house, designed in a very distinctive Italianate style, is the only one of its kind in Russell, and a good example of the mid-nineteenth century romantic, picturesque movement which had as its ideal the villas of Italy. The style came to most American villages from architectural pattern books. Two stories high under a very shallow cross gabled roof, the house is marked by its cruciform plan, center rectangular cupola and porch which wraps the center pavilion on three sides. The porch is enlivened by paired colonnette (corners have three) standing on high paneled bases. Also distinctive are the eaves, which deeply overhang the house and, being continuous, are framed without returns. Two interior stove chimneys, and windows with 4/1 sash, smaller on second story except on the front, are typical of Civil War period building practice. Picking out rubble stone foundations in red mortar was common somewhat later.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house may have been built for E. S. Combs. His name does not appear on the map of 1855, but by 1870 he owned this house on Main Street and the grist mill west of the Bradley Brook bridge. He may have owned a saw mill as well. The mills were located on Bradley Brook on either side of Old Westford Road as it met Main Street. Both mills appear on the map of 1855. The grist mill is still present on the map of 1894, at which time it is listed as both grist and saw mill.

The presence of these mills is an indication of the continuing significance of agriculture and lumbering in the economy of the town. Most farmers consumed what they grew, and did not develop markets outside the town for their products. Their wheat and corn were therefore milled locally. Much of the timber that grew on the steep hillsides was burnt as fuel by the railway, whose depot was in Russell Center from 1841, but some must have been milled here for home use.

Local files suggests that as late as 1900 the grist and saw mills were still standing. They were furnished with water from a flume which ran from a dam located on the brook, then behind the old school. When Route 20 was constructed, a water right was preserved. Some evidence of the old industrial flume was noted behind the properties on Blandford Stage Road east of Westford Road until recently.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Research materials and notes in the collection of Alice Britton.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-20

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 131 Main Street

Historic Name Horace Parks House

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1830

Architectural Style Plan of 1831

Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation or Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation High granite

Wall/Trim clapboard siding

Roof slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

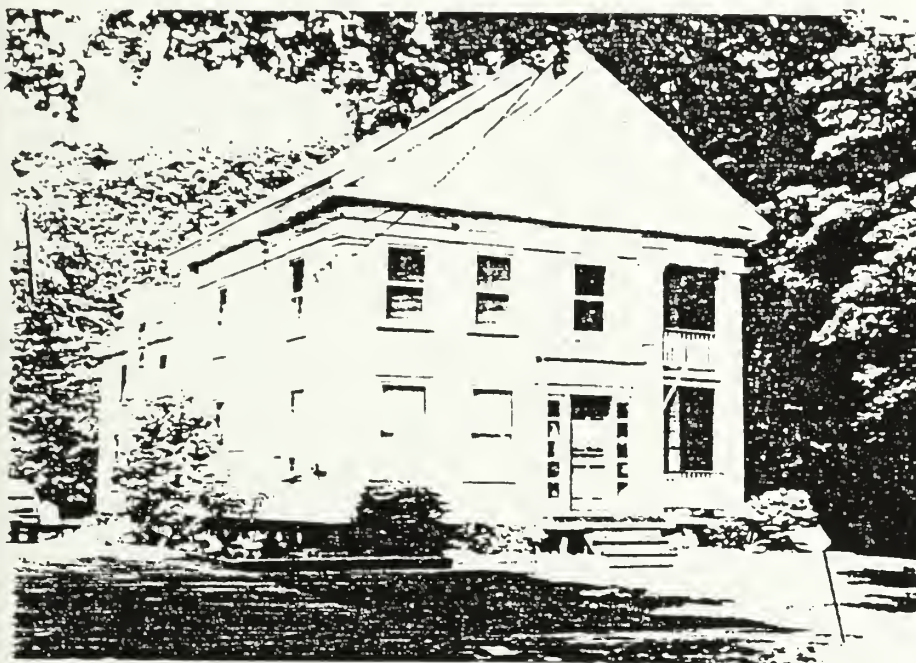
Major Alteration (with dates) Bay window at east facade added, new front stoop and steps 1970s.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

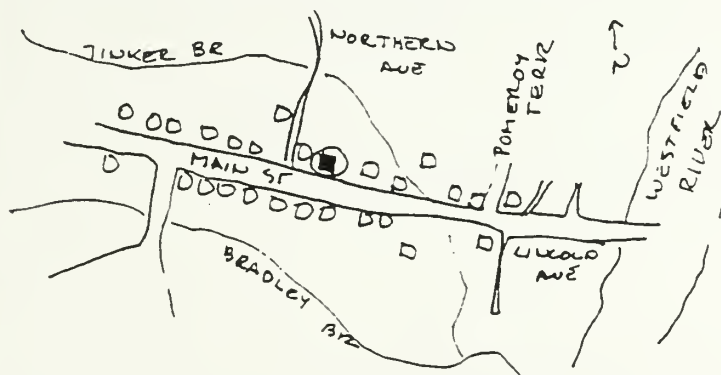
Acreage Less than one acre

Setting In village center, main street  
faces south on good sized lot.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story Greek Revival style house is probably the finest of the several houses of the period in Russell Center, and the only one with colossal pillars. Set on high granite foundations, it has clapboard siding and a slate roof. It is sited with its gable end turned to the street to present the Greek temple form so popular from the 1830s to 1850s. Paneled corner pilasters support a cornice and full pediment very like that of the Baptist Church a few doors down on Main Street. Like many of these temple front houses, it is three bays wide, with the door in the third bay. Here, however, the last bay under the pediment is an open, two story porch, and a square pillar supports the end of the pediment, one of a series embellishing the east elevation.

The wide entry with full length sidelights is particularly fine. Its fluted pilasters are unusual in that they extend beyond the entablature above. The fine row of dentils show the high quality and architectural sophistication of the house carpentry. A two and a half story ell has gabled dormers which extend through the cornice.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was probably the home of Horace Parks, one of Russell's most respected citizens in the 19th century. If so, a secondary source states that it was built by William Crosby, Selectman in 1849. Horace was born in 1821, a member of a family which had pioneered the town as he was descended from Jeremiah Parks, born in 1792 in what is now Russell. Horace was in charge of the rail construction when the double track was laid to Albany, and he was station agent at Russell for 42 years. His son Robert took his job upon his retirement. Horace was active in the town's civic life, serving as Selectman throughout the 1870s and 80s. He owned a good deal of real estate in Russell Center, as shown on the maps of 1855 and 1870. As such, he had much to do with the past and present look of the town.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831.

Map, 1855

Atlas, 1870

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People.

L. L. Richards and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Britton, Alice. Notes and Archives, unpublished.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942,

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-6-06

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 118 Main Street

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c 1825 - 1850

Map, 1855

Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material:

Foundation Granite block and brick

Wall/Trim Asbestos siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage, shed

Major Alteration (with dates) 2 story ell

added (1940-70); 2 story ell (c. 1850-1860) added;

side portico added (c. 1917)

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

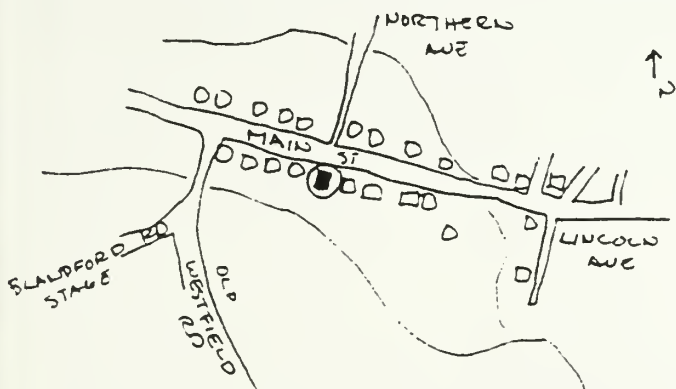
Setting Faces Main Street on deep center

village lot, drive at side yard, set on small artificial

rise.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is one of a number of fine Greek Revival houses in Russell Center. It has been sided with asbestos shingle and has lost its original door trim and possibly porch columns, but maintains some detailing and its generous shape. Like many of these houses, it is L shaped in form and set on high granite foundations. The main block is 2 1/2 stories, the ell is 1 1/3 stories high. The main block is distinguished by wide pilasters supporting a deep cornice and full pediment, and long 6/6 sash windows on the first floor, a common window treatment in the Greek Revival period. The original entrance to the house was probably through the ell, the most altered part of the house. The building was extended east on high brick foundations some time after it was finished. An entrance with gabled portico was placed on this extension.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This may have been the house of J. Osborn which appears on the map of 1855. The Osborns owned a tannery, located southeast of the house on Bradley Brook. It was later operated by D. B. Hull and Co. of Boston, and then Thomas Bryant. Bryant enlarged the plant, whose leather was used in boot making. The tannery burned in 1873 and was not rebuilt.

Russell Center became the focus of the town after the opening of the Western Railroad, (later the Boston and Albany) in 1841. The depot was located on the west side of the Westfield River. The town was a convenient place to store the wood used by the railroad for fuel. The tannery and railroad were early employers of Russell Center workers, and were important factors in the development of the area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855, Plate #1.

Map, 1870.

Archival materials, Alice Britton Files.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-08

US Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 97 Highland Avenue

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present dwelling

Original shop

Year of Construction 1925

Current Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Architectural Form Eclectic

Architect/Builder Warren Cross

Primary Material:

Foundation Fieldstone

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn

Major Alteration (with dates) Shed roof

garage attached (c. 1920), porch (south) filled,

window (east) added (c. 1940)

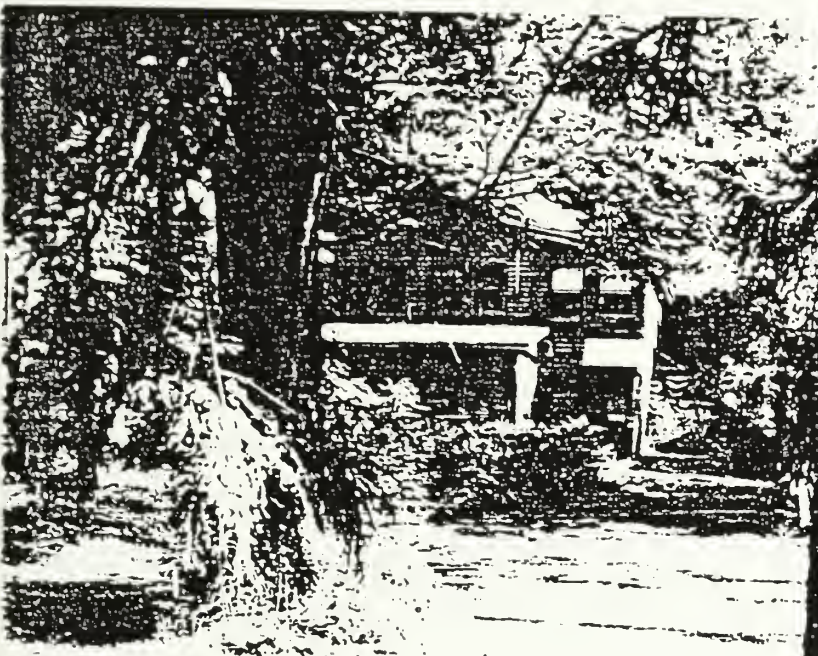
Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

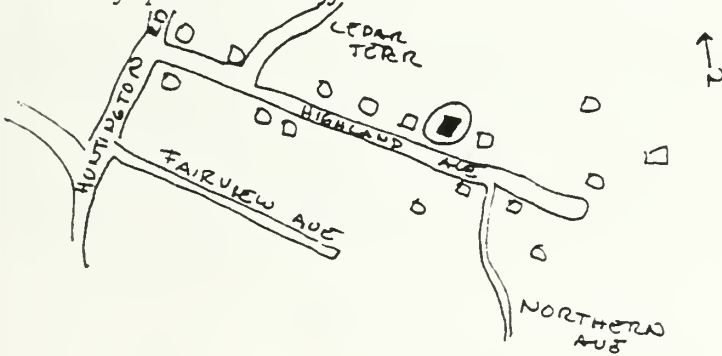
Setting Mature pines and willows in yard, set

further back from street than neighbors against hill



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This structure, now a house, was constructed from the materials salvaged from the 1869 Methodist Church after it was demolished in 1923. It was first a woodworking shop, and c. 1925-27 was converted to a house. Two stories high with an "L" plan and front gable roof, it is built into the hillside. An ell was originally the summer washroom. Remaining are the hand hewn beams in basement, segmentally arched church framing, and several 6/6 window sash. The garage doors were originally the church doors: they retain the purple stained glass. A pew from the church was saved and remains on the interior.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Methodist Church, from whose materials this house was constructed, was erected on Main Street and Blandford Stage Road in 1869. "About 1820 the Congregational and Methodist societies built a union meeting house, but the structure was torn down in 1830. The Methodist Episcopal society came into life in the town about 1818 and maintained a varied existence thereafter for many years. When the Congregational society dissolved it gained added strength, but had no regular house of worship between 1830 and 1869, when the church edifice at the Centre was erected. Since that time it has grown in strength and influence, and now ranks with the best of its denomination in any of the outlying towns." (Copeland, p. 450) Demolished in 1923, its former site is now Memorial Park. The church was a small building with its gable end to Main Street and a high peaked cupola at the ridge.

Warren Lester Cross, who built this structure, was born in 1879 and became a "man of all trades." His father bought the old Methodist church for \$20 and Warren used the materials to build a woodworking shop and c. 1925-1927 altered the shop to a house. Mrs. Cross was a normal school graduate and a midwife helper. She was widely known in town for her skill in bringing babies and for her industry. In the barn the family kept a jersey cow for butchering or milking and a pig, chickens, goat, lamb and turkeys. Behind the barn was a pasture that joined others of farms on Huntington Road. The family maintained a large a garden, canning their own vegetables and meat.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People. c. 1900.

Cross family interviews.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-1-00

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 98 Huntington Road (Route 20)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Multi-Family Dwelling

Original Single-Family Dwelling

Construction c. 1840

Form Greek Revival/Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Concrete over granite?

Wall/Trim Asphalt siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) Asphalt

shingle siding, roof line altered c. 1895.

porch added c. 1875-90

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Approximately one acre

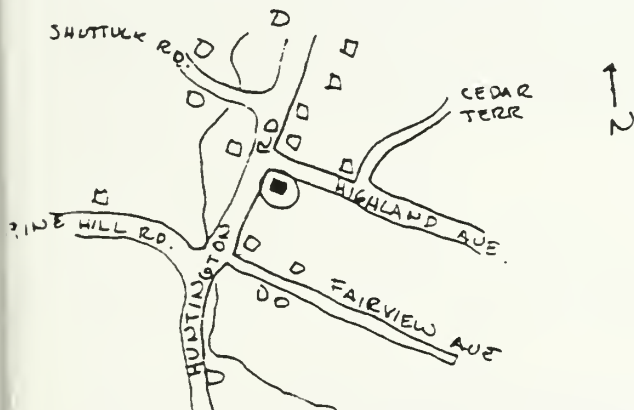
Setting Faces main road at edge of town

center, house on hill, row of mature maples near

front sidewalk.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story house is a gable front and wing "L" shaped plan, with a three bay main block was built in the Greek Revival style. It was considerably altered in the Queen Anne period with the addition of a front porch with jigsaw cut brackets, and in the Craftsman period with a new roof supported on large braces. The finely detailed side entry door surround is composed of pilasters with 3/4 length sidelights, a transom, now filled, and a paneled frame with cornerblocks. A locally significant Greek Revival feature of the inset door surround is the paneled reveal, another example is the house at 184 Main Street. A second door located on the ell has a simply paneled surround with cornerblocks.. Sash is 6/2 and 2/2.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house appears on the map of 1855 as belonging to Mr. Tinker, probably the Charles Tinker who appears on the map of 1870. In 1894 it is listed as belonging to Mrs. F.(Franklin) Tinker. Charles Tinker served as Selectman in 1841. He was a farmer, like many town citizens and his property extended across much of the hillside to the northeast. The brook which runs from the northwest to the southeast through Russell Center to join the Westfield River is called Tinkers Brook after this family. In 1870 there was a small pond on the brook behind what is now 30 Huntington Road, and a saw mill. Another mill was located on the brook north across Huntington Road. In that year eight mills, including one cider mill and one grist mill were indicated dotting the town's streams. The free water power of the streams was harnessed to help grind the wheat and corn, press the apples and cut the abundant wood which grew on the hard to cultivate steep slopes of Russell's hills. Most of this produce was consumed at home, but the History of the Connecticut Valley, written c. 1879, states that the town manufactured railway-ties and lumber, "but those industries are limited in yield". (p. 1100).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

History of the Connecticut Valley, c. 1879.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Acres

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 172 Westfield Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1875/1895

Source Atlas, 1894

Style/Form Greek Revival /Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation brick/stone

Wall/Trim asbestos shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures shop

Major Alteration (with dates) Addition with porch plus ell each on opposite sides of main block.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage over 1 acre

Setting On hill overlooking main north-south route. long private drive, wooded hill at rear

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 26, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story house is difficult to analyze. An Italianate block two stories in height and two bays wide, displays a full pediment in its gable field and has the long windows associated with the style. To it is joined a large, two story Colonial Revival gambrel roof addition, with a one story porch that wraps around the side and front of the addition. As the Italianate section does not appear in this location on the map of 1870 or the Atlas of 1894, it may have been moved here after the later date. The addition appears to be in the late Colonial Revival style, so it could have been constructed as late as c. 1915.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The stretch of what is now Route 20 between Main Street and the Westfield Road's intersection with Old Westfield Road was not constructed until the 20th century. A bridge dated 1924 in Russell Center suggests this date. Before the road was built, travelers going south on Huntington Road, turned east on Main Street, then followed Old Westfield Road to the present Rt. 20.

In 1905 an interurban trolley route was laid out from Westfield to Huntington. It probably would have passed this house. The line was called "The Scenic Route", but was used by area residents for ordinary commuting, shopping and visiting. This house was owned by a Judge in Springfield for whom it was a summer house. The trolley would have made commuting from Springfield an attraction. Trolley service was abandoned c. 1928.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

L. L. Richards and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., K. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.  
Higgins, Charles E., The Strathmorean: 50th Anniversary Number, West Springfield, 1942.  
Western Mass Street Railway, The Trolley Route of New England, Bassett Co., Springfield, 1906.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

101 Old Westfield Road

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction 1923

Present owner \_\_\_\_\_

Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Two car garage (c. 1930)

Major Alteration (with dates) First floor

porch filled, fenestration first floor windows altered

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Under 1 acre

Setting On winding village street across from

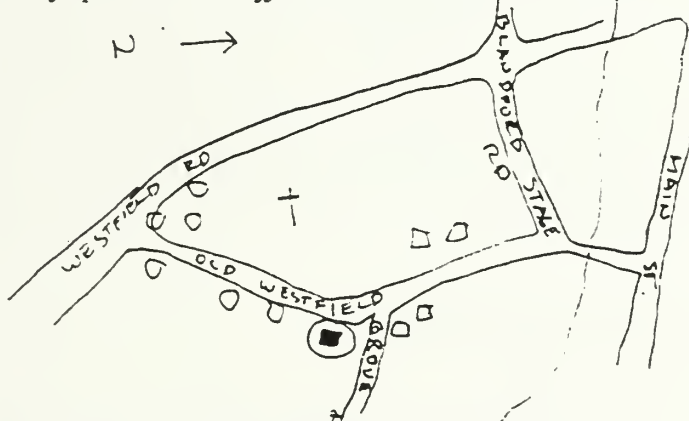
cemetery. Large apple, willow and pines in yard.

Westfield river at rear.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is an excellent example of a fully developed Craftsman bungalow. One and a half stories high, it is characterized by its wide gable roof with pointed bargeboards. They are presented to the street supported on distinctive squared braces. The level roofed, deep front porch with square posts supported on high fieldstone bases is another distinctive feature of the style. Originally all first floor windows had diamond panes.

This is one of a very limited number of prefabricated houses in Russell. It was manufactured by the Aladdin Company which also provided the plan and materials for a house on Highland Avenue. Pre-fabricated houses were popular in the United States throughout the teens and twenties. All building materials, doors, windows and sometimes fixtures, as well as pre-cut lumber were packaged to arrive on site for assembly. Aladdin was one of the leading companies of the period.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The first owner of this house may have been Glen Sevey. He was in real estate business and owned the land all the way to Route 20.

Grove Street does not appear on the atlas of 1894. It was probably developed by the Westfield River Paper Company with housing for its workers. At that time, Westfield Road between Main Street and Old Westfield Road did not exist. Old Westfield Road took a sharp bend around the cemetery, which appears on the map of 1831.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831.

L. L. Richards Co. Atlas and Surveys of Hampden County, MA, Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

16-2-05

USGS Quad

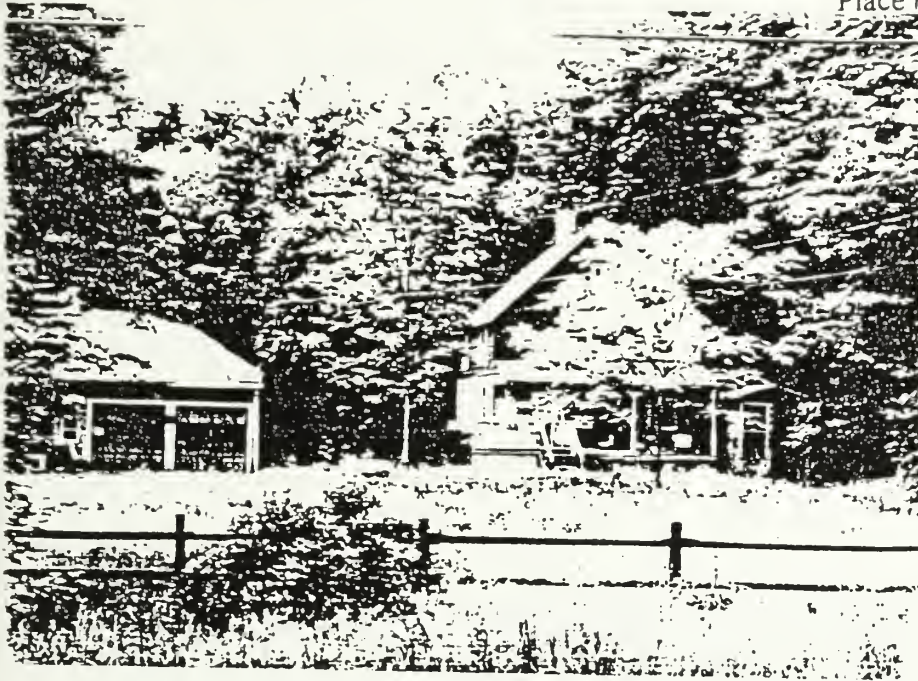
Blandford  
Woronoco

Area's Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Address 141 Blandford Stage Road

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c 1880- 1893

Source Atlas of 1894

Style Queen Anne

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Material:

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim asphalt shingles over clapboards

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage, shed

Major Alteration (with dates) asphalt shingles

added 1950s

Condition Poor

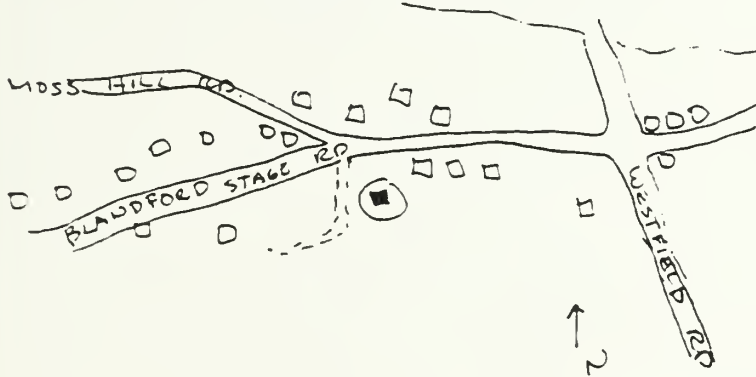
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 1/4 acre

Setting Deep setback from road. Several mature trees in front yard.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story house is typical of the modest, Queen Anne, side-hall houses which were built in numbers in the last years of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Three bays long with a high front gable roof, its major decorative feature is a one story porch with lathe turned porch supports and scroll cut brackets. It probably originally had a porch rail, now missing. The two over two sash represented a technical advance over the multi-pane sash of mid 19th century houses.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house may have been owned by C. A. Stoddard or T. H. Clark in 1894. T. H. Clark was a Selectman in 1896 and in 1901 was a Justice of the Peace. He kept a store in Russell Center, a "well-stocked general establishment", and one of the "principal businesses" in Russell. The store was on Main Street directly across from Pomeroy Street.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870

L. L. Richards and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-51

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Years Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (*neighborhood or village*) \_\_\_\_\_

67 Pomeroy Terrace

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c 1930

Potter, Russell Portrait

Form Craftsman (or 1930s basic)

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation concrete

Wall/Trim novelty siding

Roof asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

Major Alteration (*with dates*) Replacement

windows, porch added

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

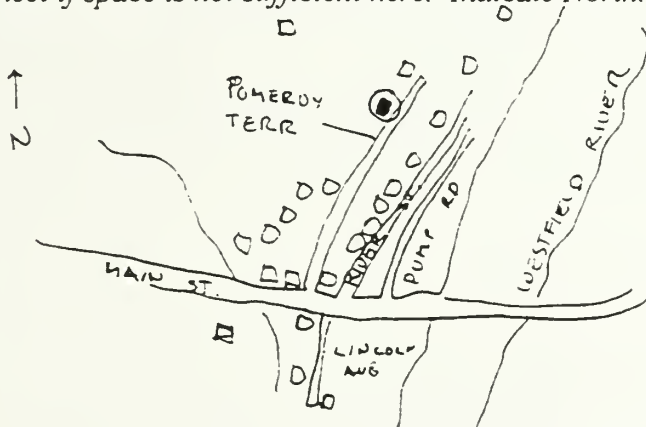
Acreage Less than one acre

Setting At end of road, mature evergreens at

street, mature hardwood at rear

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (*month/day/year*) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This modest one story cottage with side gable roof was probably constructed in the 1930s. The simple, vernacular house is four bays long by two bays deep, with the door in third bay and an ell at the rear. An additional two bay element in the same plane with a slightly lower roof line appears to have been part of the original construction. An open shed roof porch shelters the door. The exposed rafters and broad window surrounds provide the only architectural embellishment. The kneewall of the porch may have been added later.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is an indication of the growth of Russell. Population expanded rapidly in the 1920s, growing by 26 per cent in the decade between 1915 and 1925. After 1925 the population began to fall, except for a slight growth in the early 1930s. This house may have been constructed to respond to the increase in workers who came to work at the Westfield Paper Company, which had purchased the Russell Falls Paper Company in 1916. The mill produced glassine papers, "thin, dense transparent or semi-transparent paper highly resistant to the passage of air and grease" used in the packaging of foods. The company manufactured papers for the Pillsbury Company, a nationally recognized firm. The Westfield Paper Co. was economically successful, and in 1931 the mill purchased a second mill in Lee and another in Pennsylvania in 1939. Skilled workers at other glassine plants flocked to Russell in search of employment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Massachusetts Historical Commission, MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.  
Potter, Jeff. Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-22

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Years Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 155 Main Street

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling/shop

Construction c. 1900

Reference atlas of 1894

Form utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

east ell added c. 1900

Condition fair

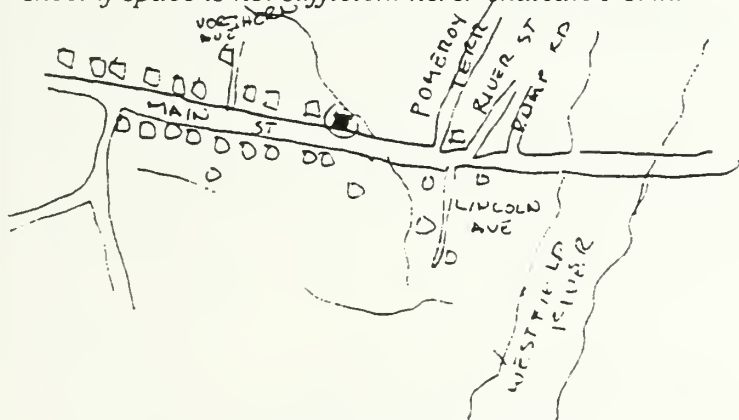
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage c. 1 acre

Setting Faces south on Main Street of village center, set back on lot.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This gable roofed residence has the appearance of a former outbuilding or mixed use building converted into a house due to its utilitarian style and long ell with minimal fenestration. The main block is one and one half stories high, beneath a front gable roof with the door in the center of the three bays. Two one story ells give it an L" shape plan. The long window in the gable field may once have been a loft opening. The 6/1 sash supports a mid 19th century date.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

From the 1841 opening of the Western Railroad, afterwards the Boston and Albany Railroad, this area of Russell Center was a town focus. In 1855 this site was owned by Horace Parks, one of Russell's most influential citizens. Born in 1821 to an old town family with a record of public service, he was in charge of grading the railroad yards at Rensselaer, N.Y and in charge of the track here when the line was extended to Albany. Later he was the station agent at Russell for 42 years. He was a Selectman in 1857 and throughout the 1870s. At his retirement, his son Robert took his place as agent.

This site was located next to one of the center's two stores in the last quarter of the 19th century. The town was scattered with small buildings used for industry (tanning, paper making), craft (blacksmithing, and storage). Perhaps this buildings served one of these uses before it was converted to a barbershop/dwelling during the first quarter of the 20th century. During the 1930s and 40s it served as a dwelling and sandwich shop. It was subsequently converted to a single family residence.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

Map, 1870

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Archival material in the file of Alice Britton.

Springfield, Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "History of Russell".

Alice Britton, recollections.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

16-1-01

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Acres

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Address 122 Blandford Stage Road

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction 1873

Owner's deed research \_\_\_\_\_

Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alteration (with dates) One story ell added on north; screened porch added c. 1950.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

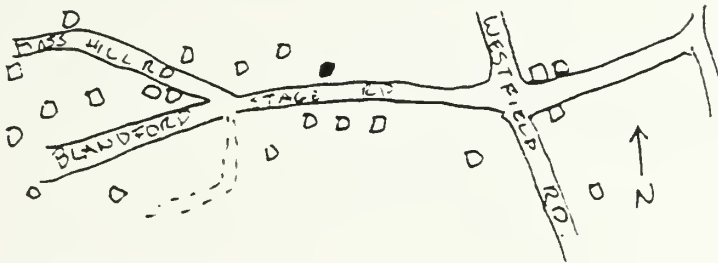
Acres More than four acres

Setting Home approximately 90' from street

Large, mature trees behind house; one mature sugar maple at front. Open lawn at front and side yard

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story Italianate house has a one story ell on the north. Its L-plan is a common form in Russell. An attached, end-gable barn (c. 1890) with double entry door is, however, an unusual feature: few attached barns are seen in town. On the main block an interior chimney rises from the roof line. The house has a wide cornice and thin corner boards, a feature of the late vernacular Italianate style. Window surrounds have simple beads, the main door is similarly simple. An enclosed porch, constructed circa 1950, was built with pines felled in hurricane, the brick exterior chimney was installed at that time.

The foundations of a chicken coop and remnants of livestock barn are located at rear of house. The presence and the demolition of these outbuildings are indications of the changing land use patterns and occupations of the residents of Russell center.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

A deed for the land on which this house stands was drawn in 1872 and in 1873 the house was built. It was first sold in 1876 for \$3800. Evidently its owner at one time did at least some farming, although most farmers in Russell grew only what they needed and did not develop a market for their produce.

Blandford Stage Road was probably a Native American path along Potash Brook, opening access to the more fertile bottom lands along the brook. The path was improved in the Federal Period c. 1790s, when the town of Blandford was linked to Russell by a stage coach road, hence the name of the street. In 1826, after the improvement of what is now Route 20, then the through route from the Connecticut River Valley to the Berkshires, the center of Russell shifted to Russell Center. A new meeting house was constructed in 1826 on Blandford Stage Road east of present Westfield Road. The civic as well as ecclesiastic center shifted to Russell Center as well.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1774

Plan of the Town of Russell, 1831

Map, 1855

Map, 1870

L. L. Richards, and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.  
Springfield Sunday Republican, "History of Russell," June 28, 1942, Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Firm Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 3-4 Laurel Road

Common Name

Present Multi-family dwelling

Original Multi-family dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1915

Architectural Form Craftsman/Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Concrete (over brick?)

Wall/Trim Vinyl siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage c. 1980

Major Alteration (with dates) Deck added

vinyl siding, shutters added

Condition Good

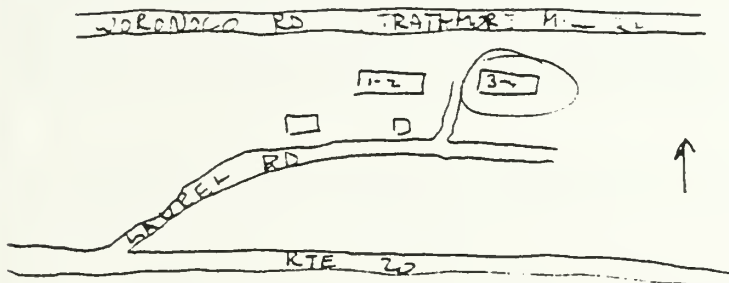
Moved  No  Yes  Date

Acreage Under one acre

Setting Below level of road in old mill village, not far from mill

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story house and its neighbor at 1-2 Laurel Road were built as worker housing by the Strathmore mill for two or perhaps four families. Very simply detailed, the buildings with pitched end gable roofs are six bays long by two bays wide with two entry doors in the middle two bays. This building has a fieldstone chimney while the house at #1-2 Laurel Road's chimney is in brick. Windows are paired and single in an irregular fenestration pattern. The size, volume, replication in an adjacent building and lack of architectural detail mark the building as worker housing. This building follows the pattern of workers' housing erected elsewhere in Woronoco with details of porches being the only major variation.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1892, Horace A. Moses, who had been superintendent of the Agawam Paper Company in West Springfield, organized the Mittineague Paper Company to manufacture a variety of fine and specialty art papers. In 1905 he purchased the Woronoco Paper Company, formerly the failed Fairfield Paper Company, and in 1911 consolidated this company with his Mittineague mill to become the Strathmore Paper Company. It was famous for deckle edge papers and artist papers. So successful was this company that in 1911 Mr. Moses built a second mill on the east side of the Westfield River opposite the original 1879 mill buildings. When it was constructed, Mill #2 was thought to be one of the most advanced in the country.

The company was family run and a close knit community of workers was encouraged. Inexpensive, well managed housing was built close to the mills for the workers and their families, the work force was provided with a wide variety of economic, social and religious opportunities. To house the expanded work force required by Mill #2, the company built sixteen houses in 1913 and nine more in 1918. This building and its neighbor appear to date from this period of construction.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E., Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, Strathmore Paper Co., West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Address 2 Strathmore Mill Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Multi-family dwelling

Original Multi-family dwelling

Year of Construction c 1900

Style Strathmorean

Architectural Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Vinyl siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date 1920

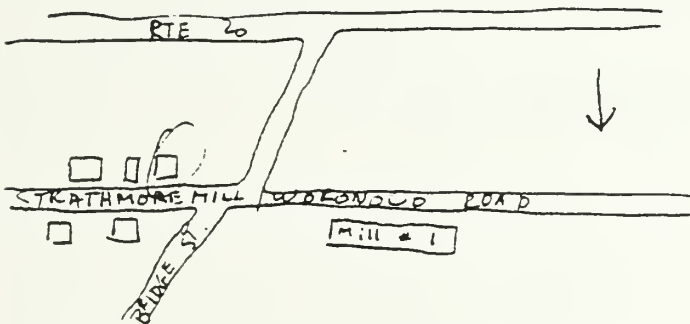
Acreage Under one acre

Setting Set below hillside and Route 20

several hundred feet from the mill

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 9, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a large two and a half story, Colonial Revival style, multi-family house which is twelve bays wide and four bays deep. The main block of the building has a hipped roof; and two projecting, front gabled bays flank a central two story porch which is entered through an end gabled portico. There are four entry doors to the units on the first floor porch and two doors to the second floor of the porch. The porch supports at both levels are Tudor Revival in style with blocky capitals, but architectural ornament is minimal. This lack of ornament is partially due to the vinyl siding, although it appears not to have been ornate originally. Of the multifamily houses in Woronoco, this is the most complex in plan and elevation, however, and stands out as one of the few mill-built buildings which was unique and not one of a number of duplicates.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Originally a four family house for the Woronoco Paper Company, this building was bought by the Strathmore Paper Company around 1905 and used for its employees. The house was moved several feet in 1928 when Route 20 was reconstructed. It was moved east across the railroad bed of the trolley tracks which were no longer in use. Prior to the move there was a building known as the Casino between the house and the next building east, the granary building. The Casino was used as a chapel and as a youth center for dances and parties, but was torn down in 1920 when the new Memorial Hall was constructed (now gone). This building was among the more than twenty houses along the main road and up the road to Blandford (Route 23) which were bought up by the Strathmore Paper Company and taken down gradually between 1905 and 1928 as they were replaced by more modern housing.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E.(ed.) *The Strathmorean*, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

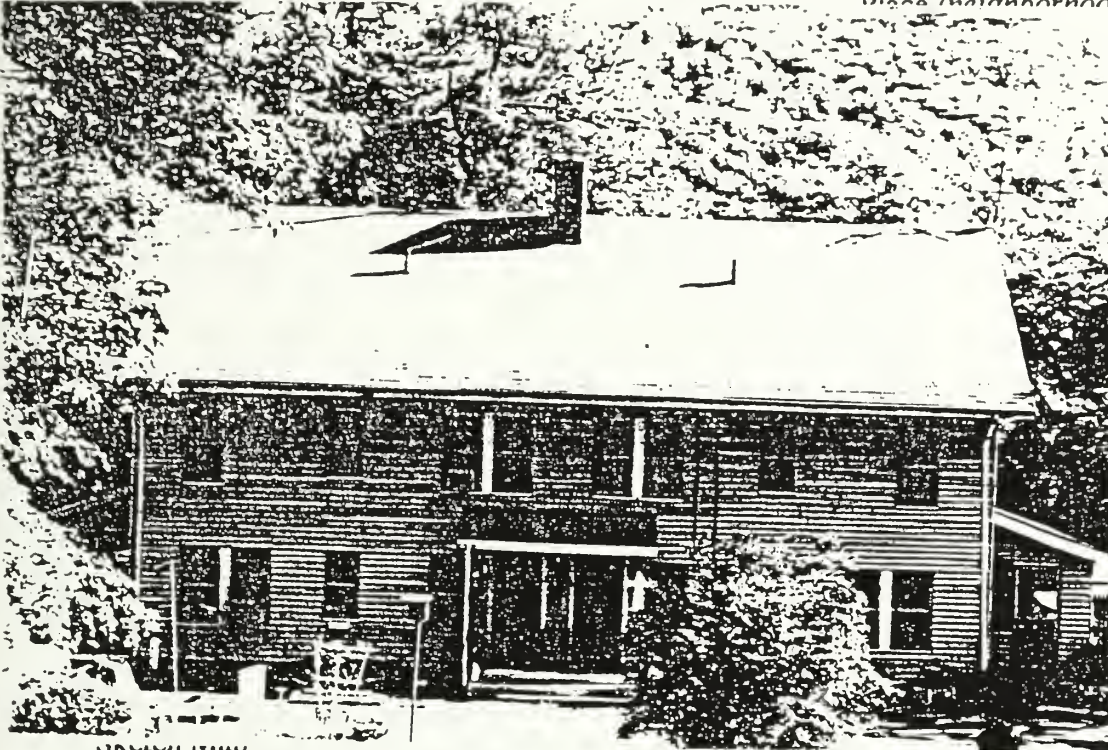
Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco



Laurel Road

multifamily dwelling

multifamily dwelling

in c.1915

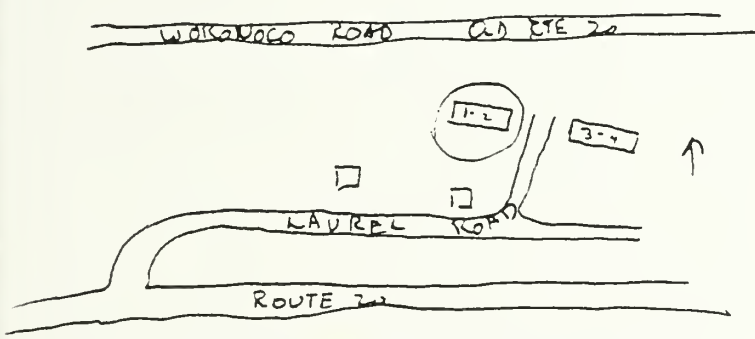
ens. Strathmorean

isman

stone

SKETCH MAP

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim vinyl

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting Below level of road in old mill

village, not far from mill buildings

Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 10/25/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a two and a half story building with a deep, end gabled roof and a single center chimney. It is ten bays long and several bays wide for an ample rectangular plan. At each gable end is a small, single story shed roof entry porch, and in the center of the longer facade are two adjacent entries to make this a double house. Fenestration is regularly organized, but paired windows are used in the end bays on the first floor and in the center bays on the second floor. Sash is 1/1. The stylistic ornament of this building was certainly modest from the time of its construction and other than the use of fieldstone for foundations which is a local Craftsman feature, and the wide eaves overhang, the building is rather utilitarian in appearance. What distinguishes it however, is its large scale which it shares with its identical neighbor at #3-4 Laurel Road.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1892 Horace A. Moses, who had been superintendent of the Agawam Paper Company in West Springfield, organized the Mittineague Paper Company in West Springfield to manufacture a variety of fine and specialty art papers. In 1905 he added to the mill by buying a second paper manufacturing business, the failed Fairfield Paper Company in Russell. In 1911 the two mills were consolidated into the Strathmore Paper Company in the village which was renamed from Fairfield to Woronoco. The Company was famous for deckle edged papers and artist paper. So successful was this company that the same year a second mill was built on the Woronoco property on the far side of the river. Expansion required new employees who needed to be housed and between 1913 and 1918 the company constructed twenty five new buildings, among them most certainly this house and its identical neighbor at #3-4.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Higgins, Charles E., Strathmorean, 50th Anniversary Number, Strathmore Paper Company, West Springfield, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address Between 360 and 172 Westfield

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1840-1860

Map 1870

Style Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Aluminum

Roof Asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Queen Anne

porch added to front facade, aluminum sided,

attached garage ell

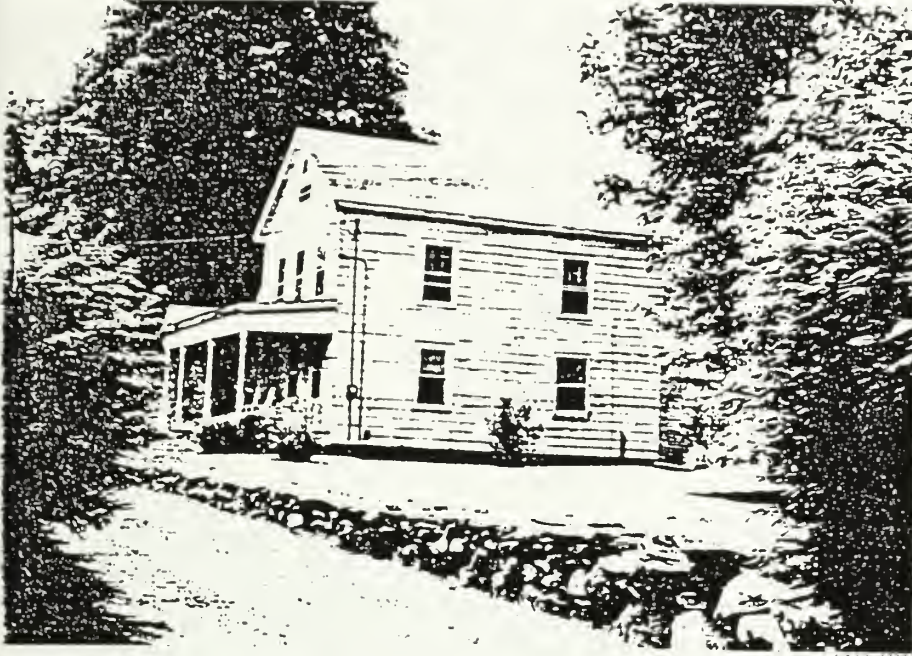
Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

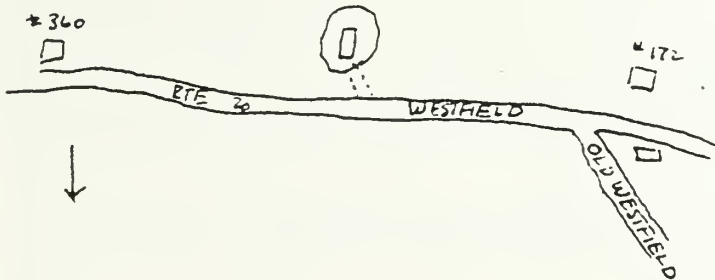
Setting Faces main old road on hill, stone

retaining wall at lawn, across from Westfield River.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This house was probably built in the Greek Revival style between 1850 and 70, although a Queen Anne porch with turned posts added across the width of the facade makes it appear that it was constructed later. The building is three bays wide by two bays deep with a side/hall plan. Two and a half stories high under a front gable roof, it has the locally typical "L" plan with a probably original one and a half story ell. A second rear ell was probably a later addition. The original door surround may have been removed when the porch was added, c. 1905. The 6/6 sash and vertical 8 light gable field window are other hallmarks of the late Greek Revival style in Russell.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house may be the one which appears on the map of 1870 as belonging to J. Sizer. In 1894 it was owned by Albert Quance. Quance, who lived in the old Doolittle Tavern, was very active in the civic life of the town, serving as Selectman fifteen times between 1882 and 1900.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People, c. 1900.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 347 Huntington Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1900- 1910

Style \_\_\_\_\_

Style/Form Late Queen Anne

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Fair

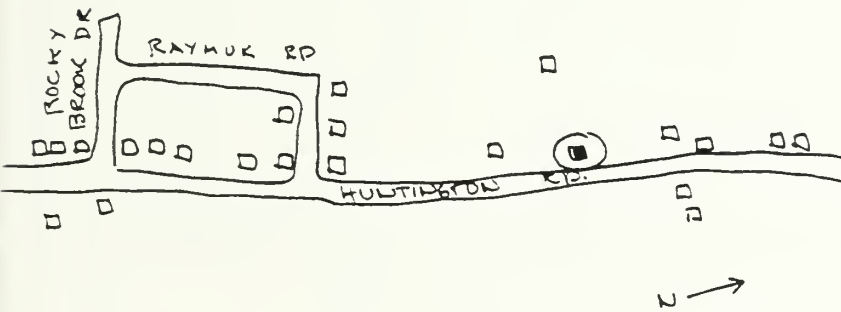
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting Lot drops steeply at rear, house close to road with three mature maples at front.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a good example of the modest late Queen Anne houses which were built in Russell around the turn of the century. In general, the houses were conservative in form and simple in ornament. One and a half stories high with a front porch on turned posts and simple balustrade, the front gabled house is only two bays wide. It follows the town's most common house form being L shaped, with a side ell. Paired windows on the street facade and the original glass paneled door are typical of the simple decorative features. An interior center chimney and 2/1 sash are also commonly found elements of the period.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Russell's population, 635 in 1870, rose to 1,104 in 1915, almost doubling in a 45 year period. Between 1900 and 1905, the period when this house may have been built, the population rose by almost 52 people per year. a relatively high rate for a small town. It is not surprising that most of the development of housing stock for this population was constructed along major roads. Russell is an extremely hilly area, and access to house sites was clearly easiest using pre-established roadways. The Huntington Road had been a major highway since c. 1800, when the old pathway was improved.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L. L. , Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.  
Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



17-4-1

Blandford/Woronoco

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address or Location 83 Blandford Road

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- bridge
- powderhouse
- canal
- carousel
- dam
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windhouse
- windmill
- tunnel

other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Construction c. 1875

Source Stone Walls, Winter, 1972

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) Stone, concrete and steel

Alterations (with dates) restructured 1955

Condition good

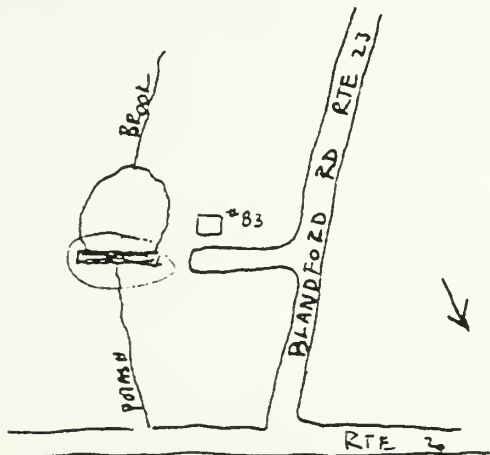
Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 22.2 acres

Setting Dam spans Potash Brook on east side  
of Route 23.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, John Egelhaaf

Organization PVPC

Date 15 November 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This is a granite stone dam with a concrete layer across its top surface. The dam is approximately 50 feet long, 20 feet high and 5 feet thick. It crosses the Potash Brook and on the west end is a small gate house. On the east end is a broad spillway. A steel walkway crosses the top of the dam. This dam is similar to the Pine Brook Dam of 1910 in its scale and the size of the pond it controls, however, this dam dates from the last quarter of the 19th century and is made of different materials than the Pine Brook dam which was entirely of concrete, as was the norm by the twentieth century.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Potash Brook has been used for industrial purposes at least since the 1820s when Vestus Parks operated a sawmill on it, possibly at this site. The Westfield Paper Company owned the site in the 1870s when this dam was possibly first constructed to serve as a water source for power production at the mill. In 1905, what was to become Strathmore Paper Company bought out the Westfield and with it this site. The dam was used as water power back-up for paper production in the mills at Woronoco. In 1955 a major flood damaged the dam and alterations were made to it to reinforce the structure with concrete. A spillway was added at the time too.

### BLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Cordis, Ralph. Personal interview.  
Higgins, Charles. The Strathmorean, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM F - STRUCTURE

Assessor's district

USGS Quad

Area(s) Form Number

17-4-1

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Woronoco

Address or Location 83 Blandford Road

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- bridge
- powderhouse
- canal
- carousel
- dam
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windhouse
- windmill
- tunnel

other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Construction c. 1875

Source Stone Walls, Winter, 1972

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) stone, concrete and steel

Alterations (with dates) restructured 1955

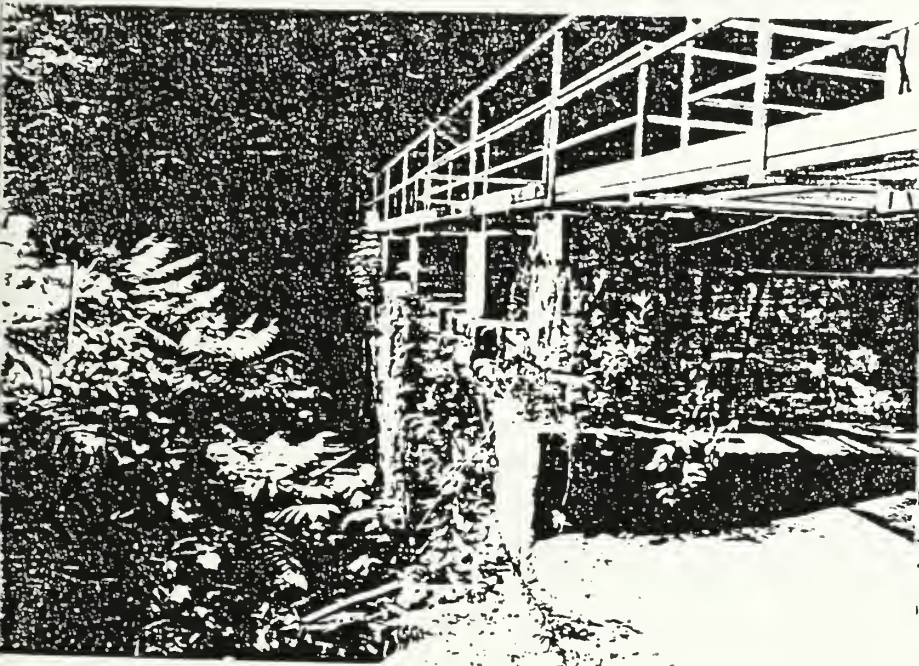
Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres 22.2 acres

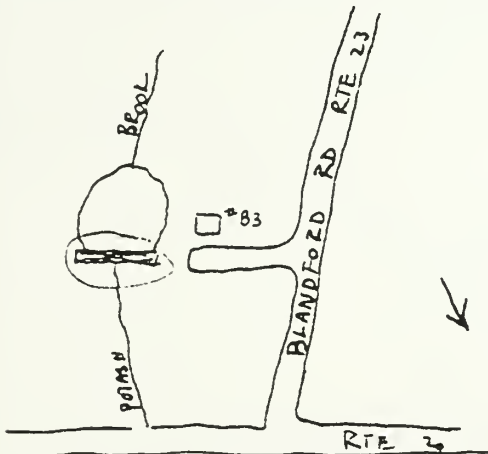
Setting Dam spans Potash Brook on east side

of Route 23.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, John Egelhaaf

Organization PVPC

Date 15 November 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This is a granite stone dam with a concrete layer across its top surface. The dam is approximately 50 feet long, 20 feet high and 5 feet thick. It crosses the Potash Brook and on the west end is a small gate house. On the east end is a broad spillway. A steel walkway crosses the top of the dam. This dam is similar to the Pine Brook Dam of 1910 in its scale and the size of the pond it controls, however, this dam dates from the last quarter of the 19th century and is made of different materials than the Pine Brook dam which was entirely of concrete, as was the norm by the twentieth century.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Potash Brook has been used for industrial purposes at least since the 1820s when Vestus Parks operated a sawmill on it, possibly at this site. The Westfield Paper Company owned the site in the 1870s when this dam was possibly first constructed to serve as a water source for power production at the mill. In 1905, what was to become Strathmore Paper Company bought out the Westfield and with it this site. The dam was used as water power back-up for paper production in the mills at Woronoco. In 1955 a major flood damaged the dam and alterations were made to it to reinforce the structure with concrete. A spillway was added at the time too.

### BLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Cordis, Ralph. Personal Interview.  
Higgins, Charles. The Strathmorean, 1942.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 11 Mt. Laurel Drive

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c. 1895-1905

Atlas, 1894 \_\_\_\_\_

Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Stucco over brick

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

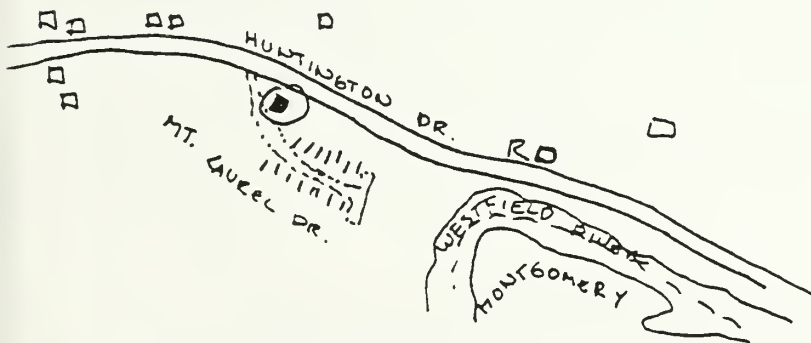
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 6 acres

Setting On steep hill off main road, trailer  
park at rear. Two mature sugar maples in yard.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This three bay, one and a half story single family dwelling with front gable is typical of the modest houses which were built in numbers in Russell around the turn of the century. Their utilitarian appearance is evidence of the lack of money for architectural elaboration. A one story, screened porch across facade with a clapboard kneewall provides the major architectural elaboration. Windows with 2/2 sash, a roof framed without returns and a plain door surround are typical features of the period. A shed roof addition was probably added later.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

The area behind this house may have been the site of Riverbend Park, a recreation area on top of Turtle Bend Mountain probably developed by the Western Massachusetts Street Railway. The trolley line operated from 1905 to 1926 between Westfield and Huntington. Called "The Scenic Route", the line was used for ordinary transportation before the private car became prevalent, and by tourists. The company advertised that riders could experience, "broad fertile meadows, far-reaching perspective, ... thrifty homes, ... the threatening front of a rocky cliff...and the lazy river." It was, in fact, "one succession of charming surprises the entire twelve and one-half miles." [*The Scenic Trolley Route of New England*, p.2 and 1].

"Between Russell and Huntington, the car pauses at Riverbend Park, a wonderfully restful spot, where a comfortable pavilion meets the needs of the people, where there are delightful walks and cool seats and resting spots, while a score of Colorado burros afford sport for the children and amusement to their elders." {Ibid., p. 3} The pavilion on the hill was used for dancing as well as more passive recreations. The burros were used to haul people up to the tower at the top of Turtle Mountain. The burro pit, which must have been the corral, was located at about the site of the trailer park. Burros were discontinued c. 1913.

Power to operate the trolley line was produced at an electric power station in Russell. The trolley, along with the earlier trains and the later buses, played an important role in connecting Russell with its neighboring communities and in opening opportunities for work at a distance from the home. At first trolleys ran every hour, later every two hours.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

The Western Massachusetts Street Railway Co., Trolley Line from Westfield to Huntington, 1905.  
Western Massachusetts Street Railway Co., The Scenic Trolley Route of New England, Springfield, 1906.  
Mason, Louise, "Olive Winn", in Stone Walls, Spring, 1989.

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheet

USGS Quad

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

[Empty box for Assessor's Sheet]

[Empty box for USGS Quad]

[Empty box for Area Letter]

[Empty box for Form Numbers in Area]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Area "The Grove"

Use Multifamily dwellings

Multifamily dwellings

Construction Dates or Period c 1916-20

Condition good

Intrusions and Alterations siding porch

filled

Area 1.4 acres

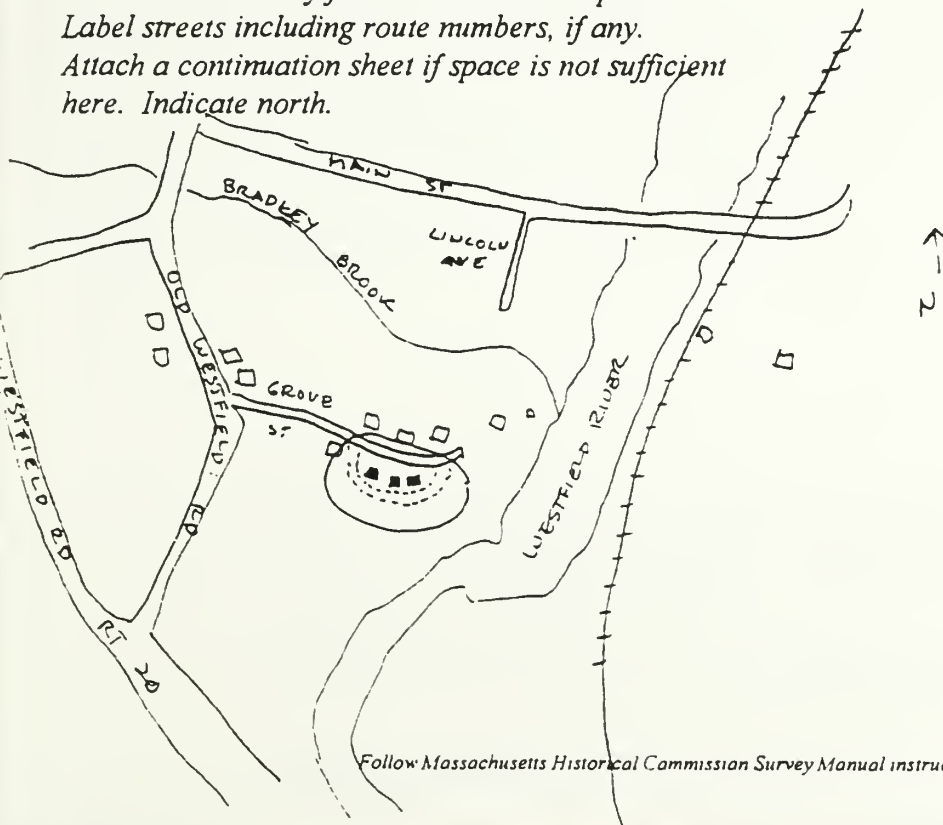
Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date (month/year) Sept. 22, 1993

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.



Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## AREA FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

The area is composed of three identical double houses in single family house form. Located in Russell Center on a dead end side street in a valley running parallel to Bradley Brook and perpendicular to the Westfield River, they are set on a slight rise behind a continuous low hedge and maintain a solid streetline. Two stories high under a deck on hip roof, they are square in plan and four bays long by three bays deep. The houses are very simply detailed, with a four columned porch across the front facade. Other decorative elements are the vertical multiframe lights on upper sash on first floor and six over one sash on second story, Colonial Revival features.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

These buildings are constructed on the site of the Blandford Brick and Tile Co. buildings, which had been constructed on the site of a Bradley property. The factory, located across the Westfield River, was built in the 1870s or 80s by the Norcross brothers of Worcester, contractors and owners of a brownstone quarry in East Longmeadow. They made the "high class" light or yellow brick for the addition to the State House at Boston and for the Springfield Theater building. When the firm was unable to purchase clay locally, the property was sold to S. G. Otis, to the Russell Falls Paper Co. and in 1916, to the Westfield Paper Co. and later to the Westfield River Paper Co.

This may have been the site of the housing for the Blandford Brick and Tile Co. workers housing, as the Atlas of 1894 shows four residential scaled buildings at about the location of these houses, but with a different alignment. These three buildings are the remains of a larger group of workers' houses built by the paper company in "the Grove", probably c. 1916 when the Westfield Paper Co. began the production of glassine papers. The area was connected to the factory across the river by a swinging bridge, which remained until it was demolished by the flood of 1955 and which gave the nickname the Swinging Bridge Gang" to company workers. One Russell Center resident recalls that the life of the village was based on the mill whistle which blew three times a day. Two shifts a day passed over the bridge.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

[Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942].

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM F - STRUCTURE

Anchor's number

USGS Quad

Area 3, Form Number

15 between  
E1, 7 5 9

Elandford  
Woronoco

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address or Location off Highland Ave.

Northern Avenue

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- bridge
- powderhouse
- canal
- carousel
- dam
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

other (specify) dirt road

Date of Construction c. 19th century

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) earth roadbed

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting In town center between Main St. and

parallel street (20th cent.). Runs uphill.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date Oct. 5, 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This dirt path is located between Main Street and Highland Avenue in Russell Center. About 5 - 6 feet in width, it is edged with trees and shrubs as it winds uphill from Main Street. At the Highland Avenue end it is closed to vehicular traffic with a chain between concrete posts (1960s?).

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

Although it is not shown on 19th century maps, it is likely that Northern Avenue was a 18th or 19th century farm path or possibly short cut used by Russell Center residents through the fields to the north. When the new Russell Elementary School was built on Highland Avenue in the early 1960s, this path was used by school children. It is sometimes called "The Dingle".

During much of the 19th century this path belonged to the Parks family who used it to travel back and forth from their home on Main Street to their fields on the hillside.

### BLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L. , Atlas and Survey of Hampden County, Springfield, 1894.

Alice Britton, personal interview.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM H - PARK  
AND LANDSCAPES

Assessor's number

15-1

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address or Location Main Street

Name Russell Town Park

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Landscape (check one):

- X park
- green/common
- garden
- boulevard/parkway
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- farm land
- mine/quarry
- training field

Date or Period 1869-1945

Source Beers, plaque

Landscape Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Plans \_\_\_\_\_

Alterations/Intrusions (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Good

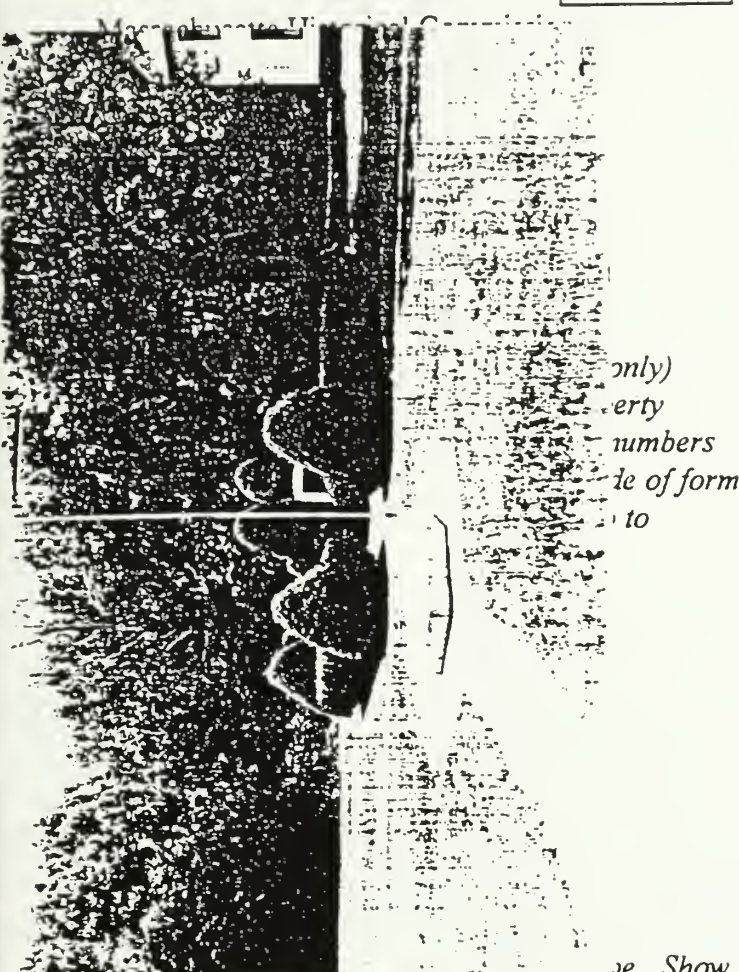
Acreage Less than one acre

Setting A corner lot bisected diagonally by the stone pathway that emphasizes the sight line terminating at the marble monument.

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

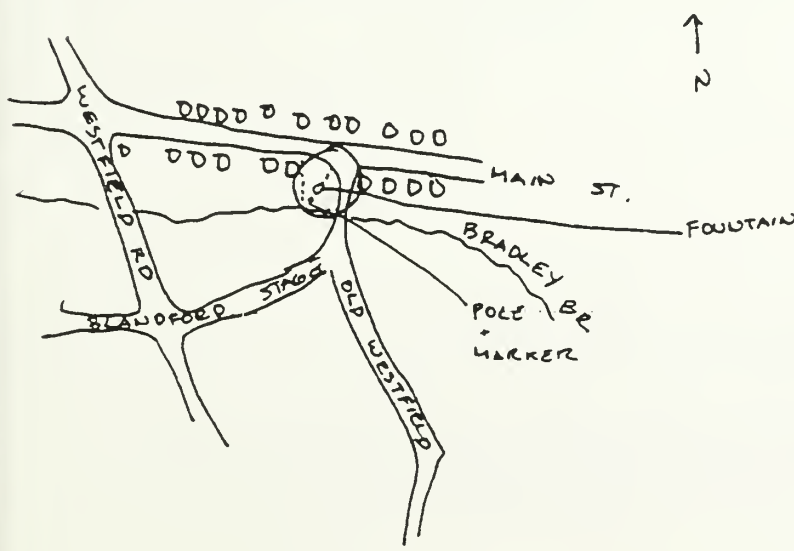
Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) June 28, 1993



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to

... Show its location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings or major features within the landscape. Indicate all buildings between the landscape and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



## PARK AND LANDSCAPES FORM

VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe topography and layout. Note structures such as bandstands, gazebos, sheds, stone walls, monuments, and fountains. Note landscaping features such as formal plantings, agricultural plantings, and bodies of water. If possible, compare current appearance with original.*

This corner lot is located in the center of the village of Russell, at the intersection of two major roads. The land is flat, and clearly set out by the streets and Bradley Brook, which runs in a depression at the rear. The area is landscaped in grass and laid out with paved walks. A major axis is defined by a diagonal path, which divides around a low six sided fountain at about the center. Beyond the fountain, a semicircular path with one end at Main street and the other at Old Westfield Road intersects the linear path. Here is located a flag pole placed at the entrance to an enclosure of yew hedging and shrubs surrounding an inscribed marble monument. The monument has a crenellated upper edge and an eagle on top. The inscription reads, "Roll of Honor, Here are inscribed the names of the men and women of Russell who served their country in World Wars I and II".

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of use. Evaluate the historical associations of the landscape/park with the community.*

The Map of 1855 shows the land on which this park is located as the approximate site of a path leading from the Westfield/Huntington Road. The Beers Atlas of 1870 shows Old Westfield Road as the single road into Russell Center, and the Methodist Episcopal Church on the corner formed by its intersection with Main Street. The church was built in 1869, and seems to have succeeded a late 18th century Methodist meetinghouse at General Knox and South Quarter Roads, which was demolished c. 1850. "About 1820 the Congressional and Methodist societies built a union meeting house, but the structure was torn down in 1830" [Copeland, p. 450]. Copeland states that in the early 1900s, the Methodist church organization "ranks with the best of its denominations in any of the outlying towns." [op. cit. p. 451]. The church was a small wooden structure with the gable end topped by a small belfry facing Main Street.

In 1923 the church was demolished when the Protestant denominations united at the 1853 Baptist Church on Main Street as a community church. The church was dismantled and reassembled as a workshop and later as a private house at 97 Highland Ave. This site subsequently became a Town Park memorializing its war dead..

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Beers, Atlas of Hampden Co. New York, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

The Hilltowns, October 14, 1977, p. 3.

Benway, Henry Knox Reenactment, Russell, 1976.

Pitoniak, Stephen J., Sr. Western Massachusetts History, Westfield, 1970.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 223 Blandford Stage Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1895-1905

Source Atlas, 1894

Style/Form Queen Anne cottage

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) room over

porch added?

Condition good

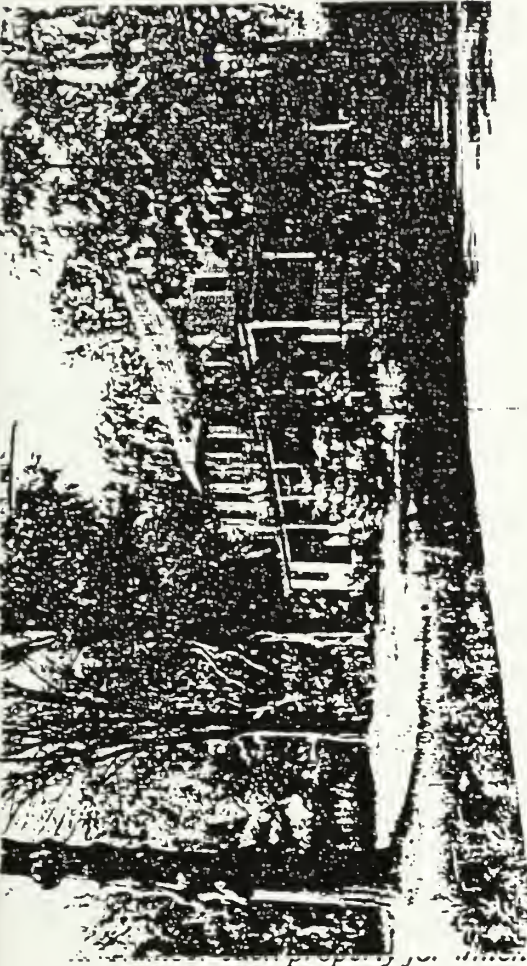
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage c. over 1 acre

Setting On edge of Russell Center at the foot

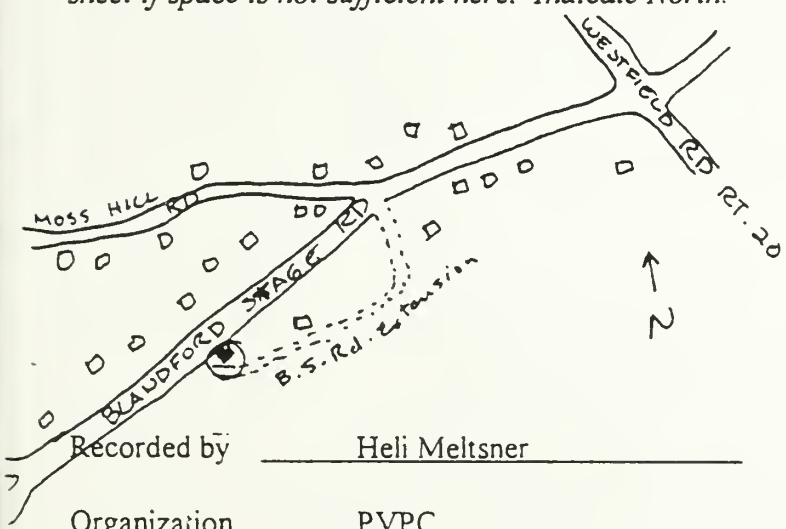
of Russell Mountain. A stone retaining wall

divides the property from the lower level road.



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ies within inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This 2 1/2 story cottage is typical of modest late Queen Anne residential building in Russell. A wrap around porch with turned posts provides much of the decorative interest as well as offering a useful transition between interior and exterior partaking of both attributes. The house, which sits on high foundations, turns its narrow, two bay gable end to the street and places the door on the long side. A one room extension at second floor level is perched on the porch roof, an unusual method of gaining extra space in this area. Windows contain 1/1 sash.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Throughout the 19th century this area of Blandford Stage Road was very lightly settled. What we know as Blandford Stage Road may have originated as a Native American path, but it is more likely that it was developed after the construction of a meetinghouse at Russell Center in 1792, when the town was separated from Westfield. The map of 1831 shows two mills on this road, a schoolhouse besides the meetinghouse, and cemetery in Russell Center. The maps of 1870 and 1894 continue to indicate sparse settlement along this road close to Russell Center, though settlement was spreading from the center along the Huntington/Westfield road. Perhaps this area remained open because factory workers in Russell Center preferred to be close to their jobs in the brick, glove and later paper factories, yet farmers such as J. Bronson of Dickenson Hill Road, required an adequate amount of land for crops and pasturage.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894..

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey: Russell, Boston, 1980.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

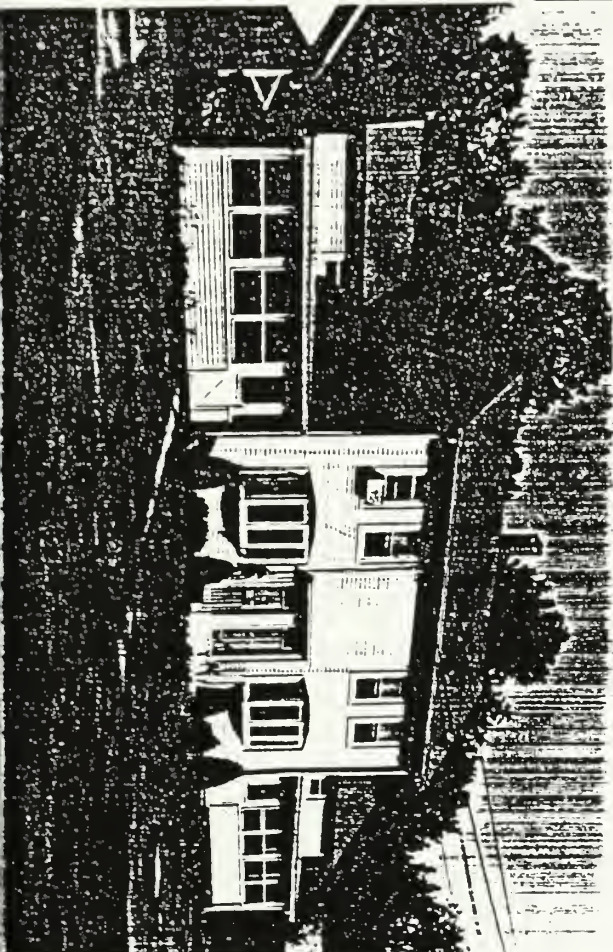
USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Acres

Form Number

[ ] [ ]



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Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 20 Blandford Stage Road

Historic Name District #2 School/Town House

Uses: Present Two family house

Original Elementary School

Date of Construction 1848

Source Alice Britton, unpubl

Style/Form \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder G.S. Burbank, Chauncy Hall

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim vinyl over clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) siding added, all new fenestration, doors, chimney, two wings.

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date 1867

Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting on old main road, near town center,

brook runs behind lot

ies within  
Number each property for which individual  
inventory forms have been completed. Label streets  
including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate  
sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This building retains little of its original design as a schoolhouse and Town Hall, or its subsequent design as a two family dwelling. It was built in 1848 by "G. S. Burbank and neighbors including Chauncy Hall" and subsequently purchased by Jarvis W. Gibbs. He moved to this site in 1867 and remodeled it as a two family house. The wings on either side may have been constructed at this time. The basic form, a two story, side gable, frame structure is still evident, but recent alterations have severely altered its appearance. Of significance is that a residential form and scale and was selected for its original institutional use.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This is thought to have been the first schoolhouse in Russell to have been built for that purpose. It was probably located approximately in front of the present Russell Inn, about where Westfield Road now runs. Erected in 1848 by neighbors in Russell Center as District #2 School, the building cost just \$150.00. On the second floor, above the two room school was the Town office or Town House. Previous to 1841 when the railroad came through Russell Center, there was little settlement here: apparently not enough to justify a school until the Center developed around the new train depot.

After the Baptists built their new meetinghouse on Main Street in 1853, their old Meetinghouse, which was slightly larger, became available. The Town voted to purchase the Meetinghouse for conversion to the District #2 School and Town House (Town hall) in 1857, and this school building was sold to Jarvis W. Gibbs. He moved it to the "Johnson lot" about 1867 and converted it to housing.

Gibbs was a merchant and developed and owned much rental property in town. He married Olive C. Parks, the daughter of another town merchant, Roland Parks. Gibbs owned a store on Main Street near his house at Main and Lincoln Avenue. He was Town Clerk in 1853 and 1858 and Selectman in 1889. The tenement afterwards was owned by another town official, Albert Quance, who was Selectman in 1886, and from 1888 to 1900.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map. 1855.

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Britton, Alice, unpublished research notes.

Copeland, Alfred M., Our County and its People, Vol II, Century Memorial, 1902.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

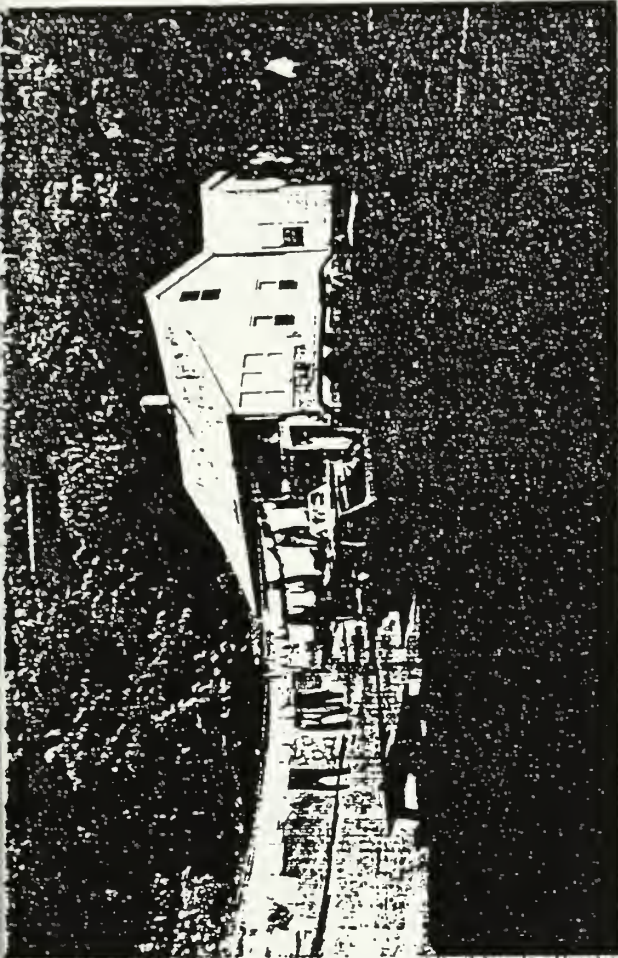
USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]



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Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 105 River Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1842-1854

Source Map, 1855

Style/Form Federal?

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

porch filled, Beverly jog extension, 1/1 sash addition.

Condition poor

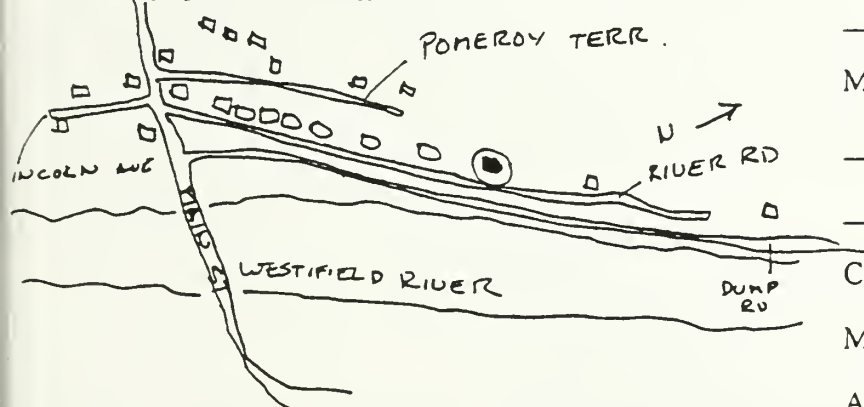
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage c. 1 acre

Setting On side street in town center, near

Westfield River, faces river across street.

ies within  
Number each property for which individual  
inventory forms have been completed. Label streets  
including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate  
sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The historic design of this 1 1/2 story house is obscured by a filled porch which runs across its front elevation. Nevertheless, it is possible to discover the original house form in the side gable form with center chimney. The house was added early in its existence with a Beverly jog, the distinctively shaped shed roofed addition.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

River Street first appears on the map of 1855. It was probably laid out after the opening of the Western, later the Boston and Albany Railroad through Russell Center in 1841. The center grew rapidly after a depot and station were opened here. Before 1870 the tracks ran on the west side of the Westfield River quite close to this house.

The house was probably built by Jarvis Gibbs, a merchant in Russell Center who married the daughter of Roland Parks, the original store keeper in town. Gibbs owned a good deal of property in Russell Center, including the fine Greek Revival house at 184 Main Street at Lincoln Avenue. He may have built this house on River Street for rental purposes.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1879.

Copeland, Alfred, M, Our County and its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

Everts, Louis, ed., History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. II, Philadelphia, 1879.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

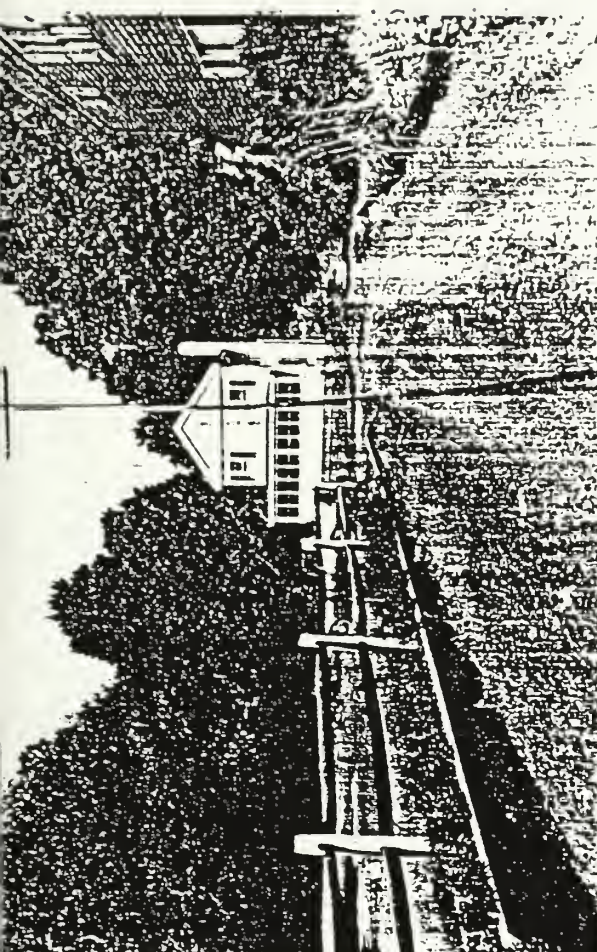
USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

(Acre(s))

Form Number

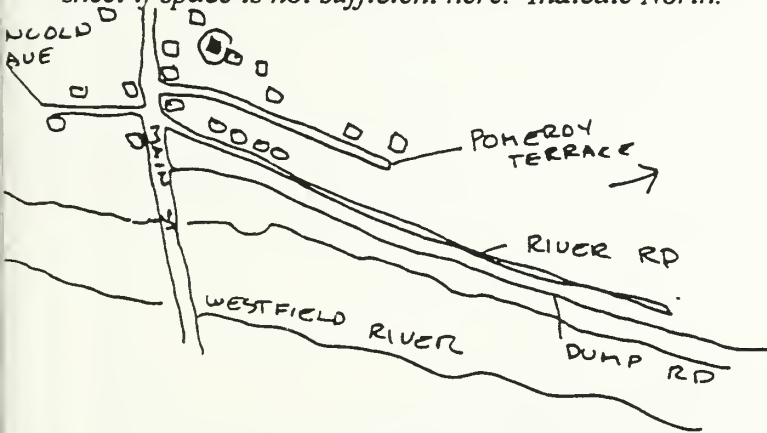
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inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 17 Pomeroy Terrace

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1842-1854

Source Map, 1855

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

filled porch, exterior chimney added

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting In town center on small side street of

small lots, the house is set back on a driveway

Recorded by Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

Like its neighbor at 21 Pomeroy Terrace, this small, two story Greek Revival cottage turns its gable end to the street to form a temple front. This is emphasized here with a full pediment in the gable end. The entry has been covered with a porch across the facade.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This may have been the house of H. L. Gridley shown on the map of 1855. He was Town Clerk in 1853. Although his family arrived in Russell early, they do not seem to have been among the notables in town. Russell Center developed after the opening of the Western, later Boston and Albany, Railroad in 1842. It was the site of the town hall, a school, hotel and a store or two. By 1855 a tannery was located on Bradley Brook off Main Street. Pomeroy Terrace was probably laid out in response to this growth. It was named for William Pomeroy who kept the store at Main and Pomeroy, and served as Postmaster in 1851.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N. Y., 1870.

Copeland, Alfred, M., Our County and its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

Everts, Louis, ed., History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. II, Philadelphia, 1879.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

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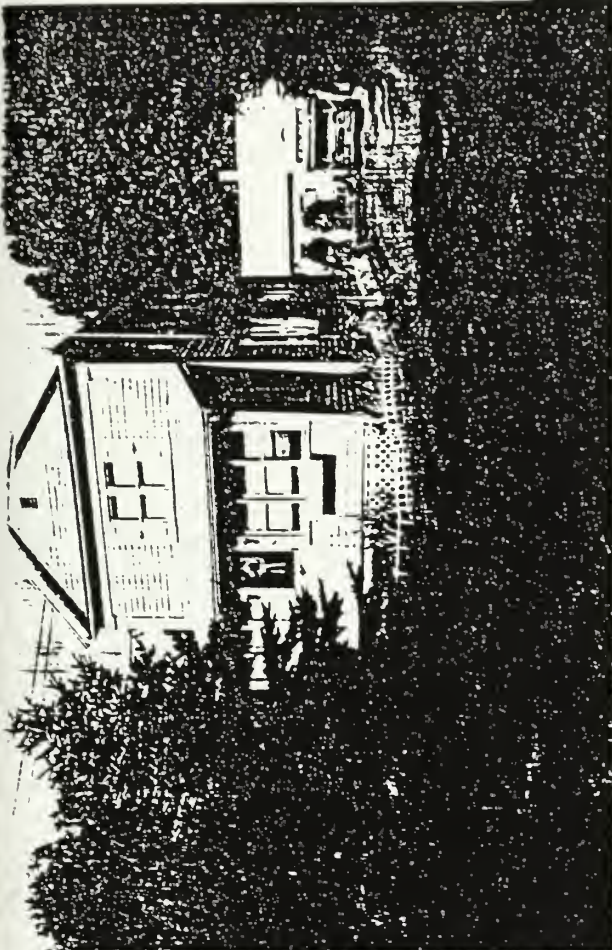
USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]



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Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 21 Pomeroy Terrace

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1842-1854

Source Map, 1855

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) closed porch, (E),

new fenestration.

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

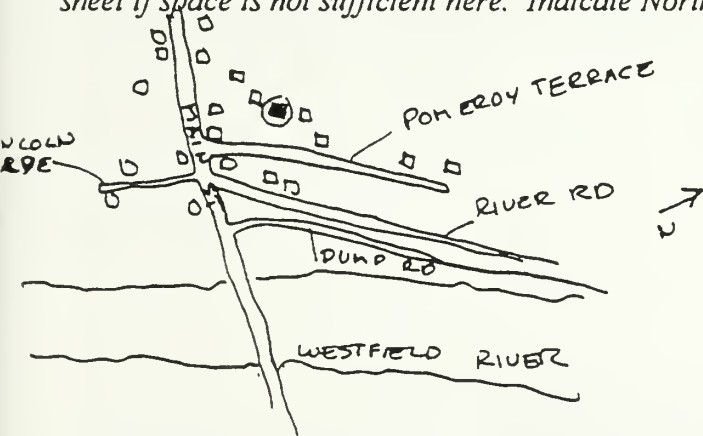
Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting On side street in village center, faces

the Westfield River on small lot, possible converted

outbuilding to rear

ies within  
ii. Number each property for which individual  
inventory forms have been completed. Label streets  
including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate  
sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by HeLi Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This small, 2 bay house is 2 stories high under an end gable roof. Little remains of its original Greek Revival design but its full pediment in the facade gable end and wide cornerboards with capitals. A one story porch which has been filled, occupies the entire facade, obscuring the original door surround. It is likely that the windows of the second floor front elevation were altered in the 20th century.

21 Pomeroy Terrace, like its neighbor at 17 Pomeroy Terrace, are examples of a popular house form: the 2 bay Greek Revival cottage with the major entry in the first bay of the temple front made by turning the gable end to the street. They are also similar to larger examples of this form found on Main Street and a 1 1/2 story example at 116 Dickenson Hill Road.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The street is named for William Pomeroy. It is difficult to determine from the maps of 1855 and 1870 whether he owned this house or one of its near neighbors. Pomeroy bought the old Gibbs store on Main Street in 1857. A big room above the store was used for a hall and meeting place. The Ladies Aid Book of the Baptist Church referred to meetings held in Pomeroy's Hall in 1870 and it seems to have been used for Town Meetings in 1900, when the old Town Hall was converted into a school. Pomeroy served as Postmaster in 1851, so he may have owned the store at that time, as storekeepers were frequently made postmaster of the town. Pomeroy was one of the Town's most prominent citizens, (his name is mentioned as one of the "notable men of the town"). He died in 1901.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Copeland, Alfred M., Our County and its People, Vol. III., Century Memorial, , 1902.

Everts, Louis, History of the Connecticut Valley, Vol. II, Philadelphia, 1879.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

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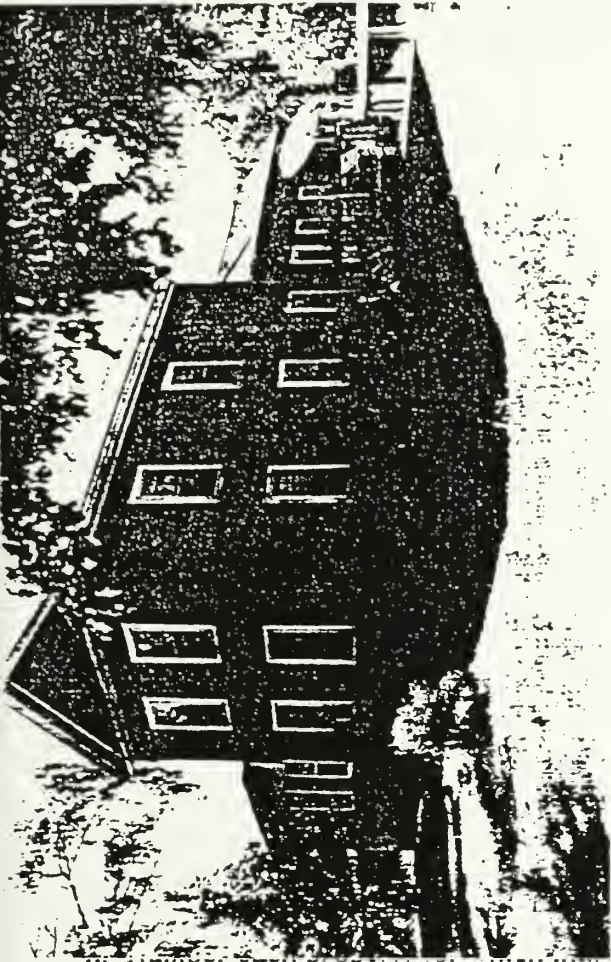
USGS Quad

Blandford  
Woronoco

Areas

Form Number

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Indicate the photo negative

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 5 Blandford Stage Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction C 1856-60

Source Map, 1855

Style/Form Greek Revival/Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim asphalt shingle over clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) asphalt siding

shed roof porch addition, 2 ells

Condition poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

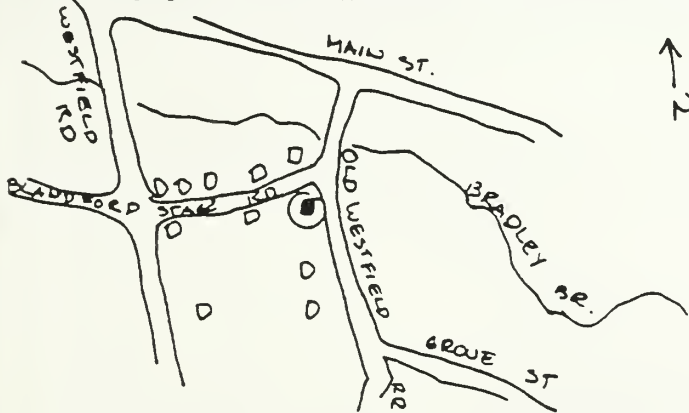
Acreage 2 acres

Setting On fringe of Russell Center, on

corner lot at intersection of two old roads, retaining

wall at corner with stone stairs to lot.

Indicate the parties within individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) October, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This Greek Revival house has been artificially sided, repeatedly added to and unsympathetically altered, so that it retains little of its original design. The 2 story side gable house does retain its full pediment in the north elevation, the 5/5 gablefield window of the south elevation and some original 6/6 window sash. The multi-pane light placed horizontally in the gable field was a common practice in Russell and surrounding towns in the mid-nineteenth century. Two ells on granite foundations may be original to the house: the shed roof addition is a 20th century addition.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Russell Center, although it was the location of the Baptist Meeting House (1792), did not become the real center of town and a relatively populated village until after the Western Railroad line was laid through the hamlet. With the advent of a depot on the west bank of the Westfield River in 1842, Russell Center began to grow quickly. By 1855 it was a thriving village with a store and hotel.

In 1905 a second means of cheap, rapid transportation altered the quiet life of the village. The Western Massachusetts Street Railway line, or trolley, was laid from Westfield to Huntington. The tracks were laid along the narrow dirt main north/south road, then Old Westfield Road to Main Street and turning east to join Huntington Road towards the north. The trolley provided service to factory workers at the Russell Falls Paper Mills or the Blandford Brick Works in Russell Center, school children, and travelers to Westfield, Huntington, and beyond.

The atlas of 1912 indicates that this was the home of Judge Copeland. His son Alfred was the station agent for the trolley. He turned the big front room of this house into a waiting room or Rest Station. A cement wall near the house was the work of this line. Alfred was also the author of a book important to our knowledge of local history titled Our County and its People, published in 1902.

The construction of the track was a difficult undertaking. Rock ledge had to be blasted at Woronoco and Crescent Mills, and an iron bridge built to cross Great Brook behind the Masonic Hall, the retaining walls for which are still extant. The trolley service was discontinued in 1926.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beer, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, Atlas of Hampden Co., Richards Map Co., Springfield, 1912.

Britton, Alice, "Western Massachusetts Street Railway Line", Stone Walls, Summer, 1978, Vol. 4, #2.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

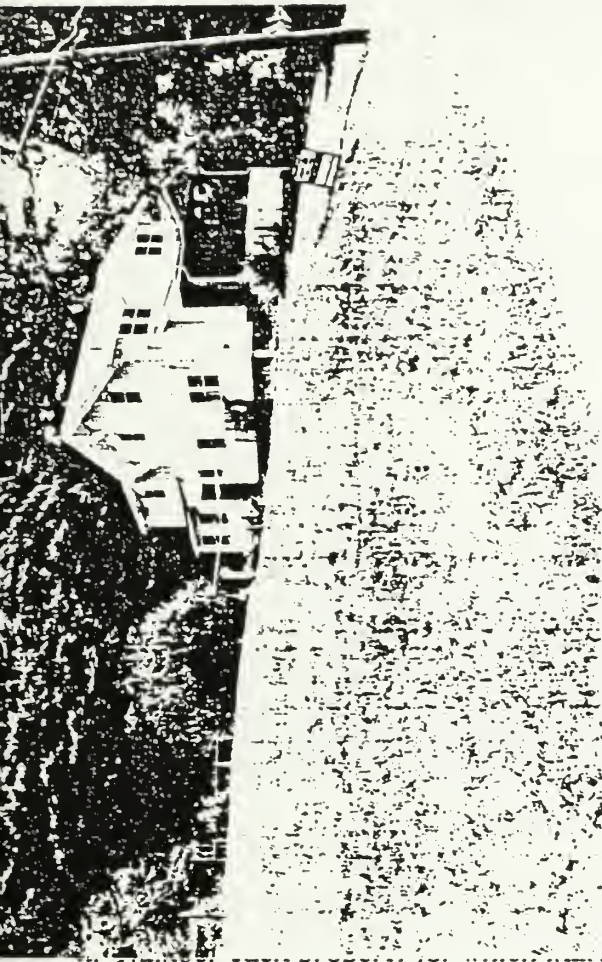
15-9-

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Year(s) Form Number

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Indicate the photo negative

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 87 Highland Terrace

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1915-1925

Source Builder's family information

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder Aladdin Homes

Exterior Material:

Foundation Fieldstone/Concrete block

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding

Roof Asphalt shingle/tin roof garage

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) Two story ell

at rear with concrete foundation.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

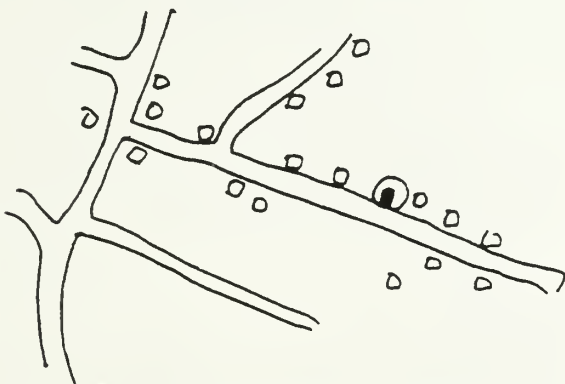
Acreage About one acre

Setting Terraced front yard with two

fieldstone retaining walls, west yard open with thin

line of matures trees at edge, steep southern upslope

Properties within individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This Craftsman style house is one and a half stories high. Although the house has been vinyl sided, it retains much of its distinctive features, such as the side gabled roof with deep overhang and heavy bracket supports, now also vinyled. An elevated entry porch is also sheltered by a deeply overhanging roof. It serves as the major decorative feature of the house: its heavy pillars flare at the top to form arches, while a jigsaw cut rail provides additional interest. The paired windows on the first and second stories have 1/1 sash, a feature frequently found in the 20th century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Highland Street does not appear on the map of 1894. It was developed from farmland owned by the Parks and Tinker families in the first and second decades of the twentieth century when industry in Russell Center was expanding. When first developed, however, it was still very rural. Behind it on the north was pasture land, and the new families maintained cows, pigs and chickens.

This is one of two known houses in Russell designed by companies specializing in pre-fabricated homes, this one may have been made by the Aladdin Company. Prefabricated houses were very popular in the opening decades of the twentieth century. After selecting a pattern, the parts would arrive on site complete with framing and cladding materials, flooring, doors, windows and hardware. The styles were current and the designs rational and compact.

This may be house which was purchased by Hiram Gridley at the lumber yard in Westfield and shipped to Huntington Road at the foot of Highland Avenue on the freight car of the Western Massachusetts Trolley Line. The trolley operated between Westfield to Huntington from 1905 to 1926, providing cheap, frequent transportation to valley residents before automobile ownership became general.

The house may also be associated with the former woodworking shop next door at 97 Highland Avenue owned by Lester Cross. Mr. Cross purchased the Methodist Church (built 1869) located at the present site of Memorial Park, and reused the frame in constructing his shop, which was then recycled again as his home.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Richards, L. L.; Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894  
MHC, Reconnaissance Survey: Russell., Boston, 1982.

Former owner's family recollections.

Britton, Alice, "Western Massachusetts Street Railway Line", Stone Walls, Summer, 1978, Vol. 4 #2.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-01

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

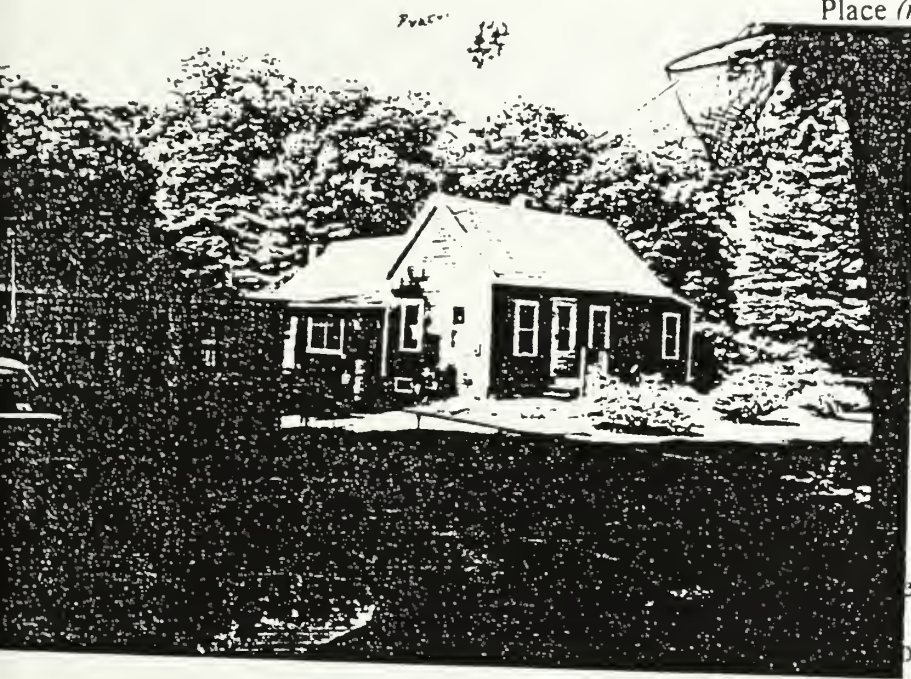
Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



108 Highland Avenue

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Outbuilding possibly

Construction c.1895-1900

Atlas of 1894

Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Concrete Block

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage with shop extension

Major Alteration (with dates) Large ell at rear of house

Condition Good

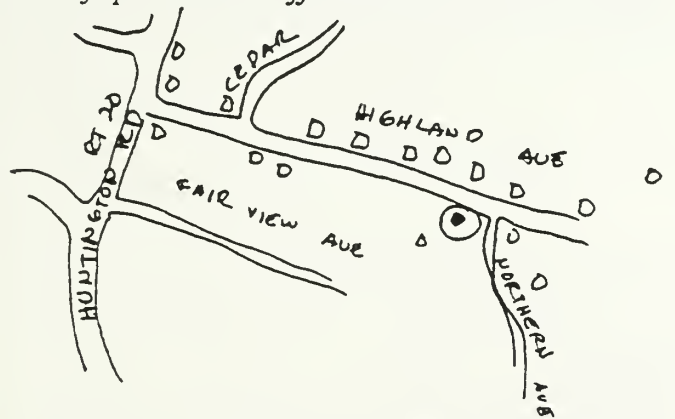
Moved  No  Yes  Date 1940s?

Acreage 27,600 sq. ft.

Setting Set back approximately 120 feet from street. Five large maples at front along road. Chain link fence encloses mostly open yard.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 16, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This small, one story cottage with a side gable and center entrance may have originally been an out building. It is thought to have been moved forward on its lot when it was converted to a house. Its high gable roof, symmetrical organization and central chimney are all part of the imagery and building tradition which derived from the vernacular Colonial style. The house has plain door and window surrounds and a rear ell.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

On the Atlas of 1894, Highland Street does not exist. Indeed, although there were considerably more houses, approximately the same streets are shown as appeared on the map of 1855. Russell Center became the center of town after the opening of the railroad through it and the installation of a depot in 1841. To the early store was added another and a hotel, to form the civic and commercial center. Industry also played a roll in its development. A tannery, shown in 1855, two whip factories, the Blandford Brick Company, (1894), and charcoal kilns across the river provided jobs.

In 1908 the Russell Falls Paper Company began operations across the Westfield River from the town. It later became the Westfield River Paper Company, producing glassine, a transparent or semi-transparent paper suitable for packaging foods and envelopes. This success of this plant probably provided the impetus for expansion of the town center which make possible the development of Highland Avenue. The land on which Highland Avenue was laid out was formerly the farm land of the Parks and Tinker families and it is possible that this was a farm outbuilding.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map. 1855

Richards, L. L. Survey and Atlas of Hampden Co., Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town.

MHC. Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-30

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Acreage

Form Number

[Empty boxes for acreage and form number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 37 Pomeroy Terrace

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1830-54

Reference map, 1855

Form Late Federal

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation concrete covered

Wall/Trim aluminum siding and novelty siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Replacement

windows, siding and shutters, foundations, door, &

door hood

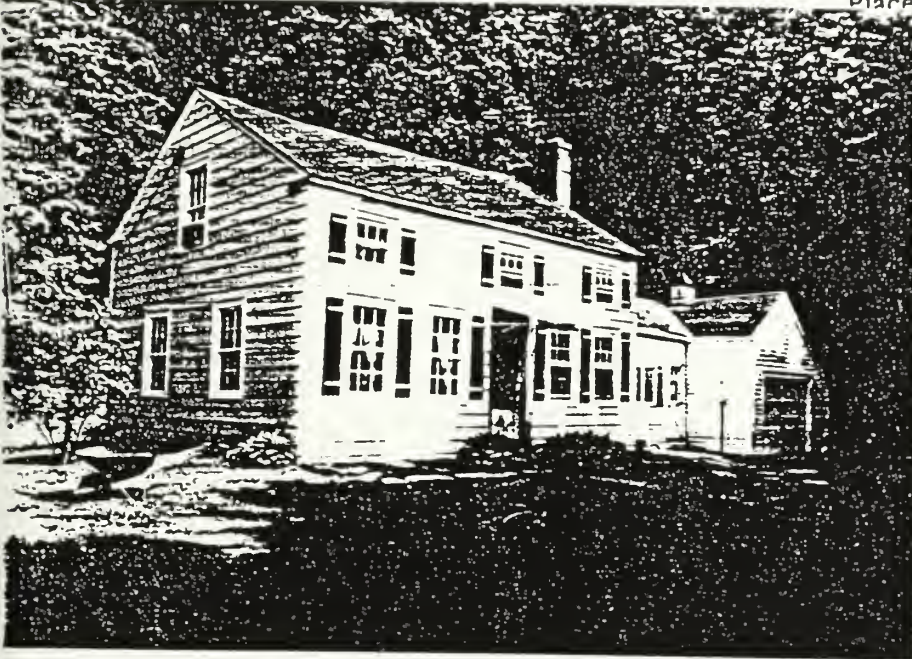
Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

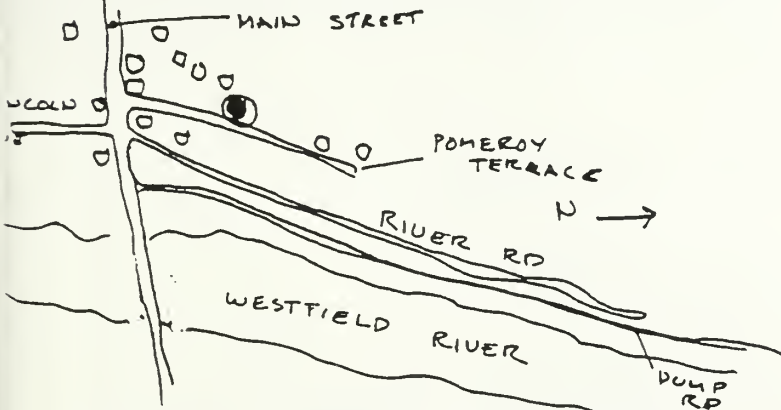
Setting Mature trees at back edge of yard

step slope behind small open yard at south side.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half or 1 1/3 story house is an excellent example of a Federal period house form which is found primarily in the Berkshire hills. What distinguishes this house form is its end gable roof, small second story windows and relatively large first floor windows. Elsewhere in Massachusetts, the more common house form was a full two to two and a half stories and the 1 1/2 story house did not appear in numbers until the Greek Revival period. A second example of this Federal house form is the three bay Federal house located at the end of South Quarter Road. This house is organized in a more traditional five bays long under a side gable roof, its entry is centered on its long side, which is presented to the street as it would have been on the larger versions of the styles built throughout New England in the Georgian and Federal periods. Most importantly, the second floor is tucked under the eaves, with smaller 3/3 sash windows set just below the roof. Windows on the first floor are 6/6. The aluminum siding, metal canopy on curved braces over entry and shutters with applied ornament suggesting hinges, and the end wall chimney probably date to the 1950s. These elements make the house look as if it had been designed in the Neo-Colonial style. A one story wing at north side may be the one shown on the maps of 1870 and '94. The garage in novelty siding ornamented with a small cupola at ridge probably dates from the 1930s or 40s.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

In 1855 this may have been the house of D. Alderman and from at least 1870 to 1894 of L. Maroney. Pomeroy Terrace was probably laid out after the opening of the Western Railroad, later the Boston and Albany, in 1841. At that time its tracks were on this side of the Westfield River, and the depot was on River Street. The street is named for William Pomeroy, who may lived at 21 Pomeroy Terrace. He bought the old Gibbs store on Main Street in 1857. A big room above the store was used for a hall and meeting place. The Ladies Aid Book of the Baptist Church referred to meetings held in Pomeroy's Hall in 1870 and it seems to have been used for Town Meetings in 1900, when the old Town Hall was converted into a school. Pomeroy served as Postmaster in 1851, so it is likely that he had a store at this date as well. Pomeroy, one of the Town's most prominent citizens, (his name is mentioned as one of the "notable men of the town"), died in 1901. In 1894 the lot just to the south of this one was the Baptist parsonage.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Elis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L. Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Springfield, 19894.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People., c. 1902.

Spring field Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "History of Russell, 150th Celebration".

Britton, Alice, Archival materials and research notes, unpublished.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-39

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Neighborhood (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

Address 33 River Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1900-1910

Reference Atlas, 1894

Form Queen Anne/Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Covered in concrete

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) New windows

on 1st story south, roof deck on west side, bay

window at east facade.

Condition Good

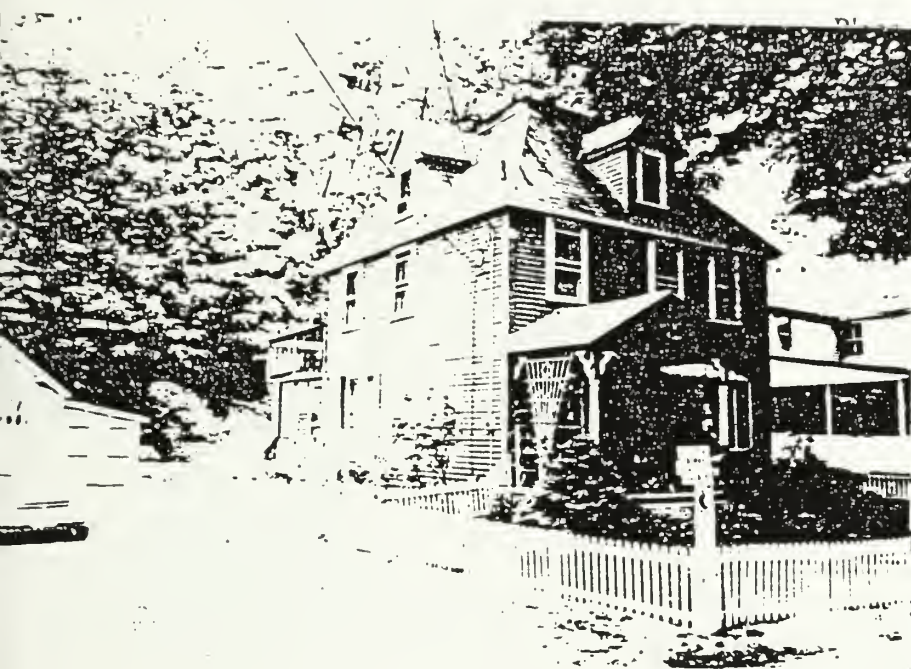
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Steep slope rising at west edge of

property, east edge slopes toward the river, stone

wall at west edge, on village side street,



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a good example of a late Queen Anne builder's house. It is heavily influenced by the then competing style known as Georgian or Colonial Revival, which used symmetrical, blocky plans and borrowed earlier American imagery, here seen in the pedimented dormer and deck on hip roof. This house is nearly cubic appearance. The plan continued the three bay, side entrance arrangement made so popular in the 1840s. A wide portico with turned posts and decorative brackets signals the entry and makes elaboration around the door unnecessary. One gabled dormer on each elevation gives light and room to the third floor while continuing the colonializing theme. The interior central chimney and 2/2 sash are original to the house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The map of 1870 appears to show a building on this lot, perhaps the same one shown on the map of 1855, but it would have been demolished, possibly to make way for this house. In 1870 the Boston and Albany Railroad tracks ran on the west side of the Westfield River, not far from this site, and there was a depot on the other side of River Street just to the south. By 1894 the tracks had been moved across to the east side of the river and a new depot built there. The tracks were probably moved to serve the Blandford Brick and Tile Co., which occupied the site of the Westfield River Paper Company. The Blandford Brick Company, whose yellow bricks were sent throughout Massachusetts, was an important impetus in the growth of Russell Center around the turn of the century when this house was built.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map. 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellsi and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L. and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummmington, 1992..

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-19

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 30 Huntington Road

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1870

Reference Map of 1870

Style/Form Utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Ells added c. 1920,

bargeboards added c. 1920.

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Close to street, mature trees at east

and north edges of property, driveway on south

edge.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This little cottage is difficult to analyze. The main block is one and a half stories high with its gable end, but not its entry, to the street. A one story ell on the south at right angles to the main block had a porch, now filled in, while a second, one story ell on the north is set in the same plane as the facade. The eaves are embellished with scalloped bargeboards, as they would have been in the Gothic Revival style, but they seem to be 20th century replacements or additions and no other feature suggests this style. The Gothic Revival style was popular in the mid-nineteenth century, but there are few decoratively developed examples of it in Russell. The 2/2 sash and center chimneys on the main block and south ell suggest a late 19th or early 20th century date, however, alterations make it difficult to determine when this house was constructed.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house does not seem to be indicated on the map of 1855. On the next map, 1870, this may be the property of P. Murray. There was a saw mill on Tinker Brook, located directly behind the house. As the hills surrounding the town were thick with trees, and streams could be harnessed, if only seasonally, to power the mills to create lumber, saw mills were plentiful in Russell from the late 1700s to the last quarter of the 19th century. Although it shows a different, and possibly contradictory footprint on the Atlas of 1894, the property may have belonged to T. Fitzpatrick.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Springfield, 1894.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-6-15

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



31 Lincoln Avenue

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c 1844-46

Research files, Britton

Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Fair

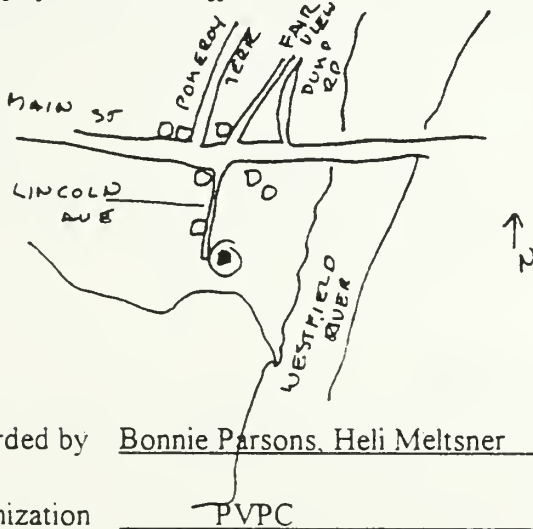
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Severe drop on east side into  
treatment plant, adolescent trees line the east side,  
mature trees at south and west

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This L shaped, two story Greek Revival house is an excellent example of the local style, which tended to present the end gable end to the street to achieve a temple front, but include an ell for extra room. Three bays wide with the entrance in the first of its three bays, the one story ell was probably original. The wide corner boards and cornice are meant to suggest the columns of the Greek temple. To further the idea that it was crafted in expensive stone instead of wood, the triangular pediment is flushboarded, that is, the clapboards were laid in a smooth pattern and its cornice is especially broad. Though simpler, it resembles the pediment of the former Baptist Church on Main Street. Most of house's ornament is centered on the door surround, which features 3/4 length sidelights topped by a 4 light transom and flanked by pilasters supporting a simple entablature. The 6/6 sash is original, as are the window surrounds which have cap moldings, an unusual feature.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Lincoln Street is shown on the map of 1855, very much as it is today. At that time this was the property of Justin Loomis. His family members were early settlers in Russell: the earliest stone in the graveyard at Russell Pond (1793), is that of a daughter of Jacob and Thankful Loomis. This house may have been built c. 1844-46, as there seem to be references to deeds in those years between Justin Loomis and Roland Parks, who owned property near by.

In 1870 the house belonged to Jarvis W. Gibbs, the son-in-law of Roland Parks. Jarvis' granddaughter and Roland's great granddaughter Olive lived in the house at the head of Lincoln on Main Street for much of the first half of the 20th century. Her rich memoir of her family's involvement in the neighborhood has been published in a local historical publication, *Stone Walls*.

It may have been this house to which Olive Winn referred when she told of neighbor Edith Bates of Lincoln Street who sold her bread from house to house in Russell Center. Mrs. Bates also ran a boarding house, possibly for the men who worked at the tannery located behind what is now the Library, or the Blandford Brick and Tile Co. located just across the river on the site of the present Westford River paper mill.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., *Atlas of Hampden Co.*, Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Mason, Louise, "Olive Winn", in *Stone Walls*, Spring, 1989.

*History of the Connecticut Valley*, Vol. 2, c. 1879.

Britton, Alice, Archival Materials, unpublished.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-24

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 31 Main Street

Public Name  

Present Use Dwelling

Original Use Dwelling

Period of Construction c. 1913-1925

Builder Builder's family

Form Queen Anne

Architect/Builder Joseph DeCouteau

Foundation Material:  

Foundation Cement

Wall/Trim Aluminum siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Shed roof garage

Major Alteration (with dates) Fenestration on north side, paired windows at front and south

Condition Good

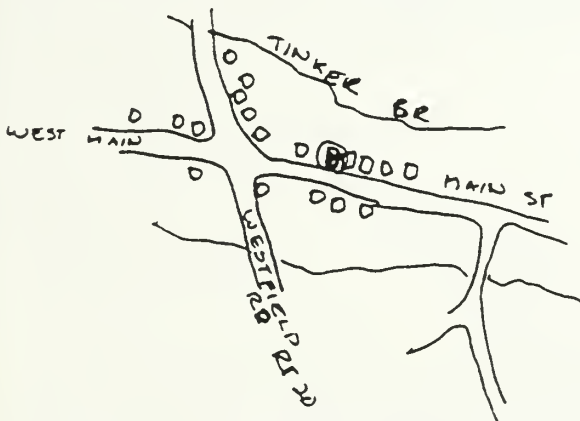
Moved  No  Yes  Date  

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Narrow village lot, hill at rear, mature trees along the rear lot line

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 28, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story, two bay, end gable house has been considerably altered, with aluminum siding added, the second floor porch filled in and modern windows installed. The window alterations are particularly noticeable in the gable field where an overscaled slider was added. The two story porch with late Queen Anne style turned posts, two story shed roof bay on the south side and front door panel of multi-colored stained glass were probably the major architectural features of the original design.

The house was designed and built by Joseph DeCouteau, who lived at 21 Main Street about 1913.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house, and four others in Russell were built by Joseph DeCouteau, who owned the house next door about 1913. This was probably part of his lot, which he subdivided. DeCouteau came to town from Canada and was a logger in Blandford and Beckett as well as Russell. He had a blacksmith shop behind his house, and used the large barn for his horses. When the bridge over the Westfield River was washed away in the flood of 1938, DeCouteau ran a ferry with his work horses to the Westfield Paper Co. mill on the east side of the river from Russell Center.

Logging was an important factor in the local economy since before the founding of the town in 1792. As late as 1870 there was a saw mill on Tinker Brook behind this house. Trees were plentiful, and little else could be grown on Russell's steep hillsides. As transporting the heavy trees over doubtful roads was difficult, saw mills were erected as closely as possible to the trees they were to convert into lumber.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-05

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 53 Highland Avenue

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Hen house

Year of Construction c. 1940

Current owner \_\_\_\_\_

Form utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick with concrete

Wall/Trim vinyl Siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage,

chicken coop, shed

Major Alteration (with dates) One story

porch, gable dormers on west side.

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting Set back from road on hillside, large

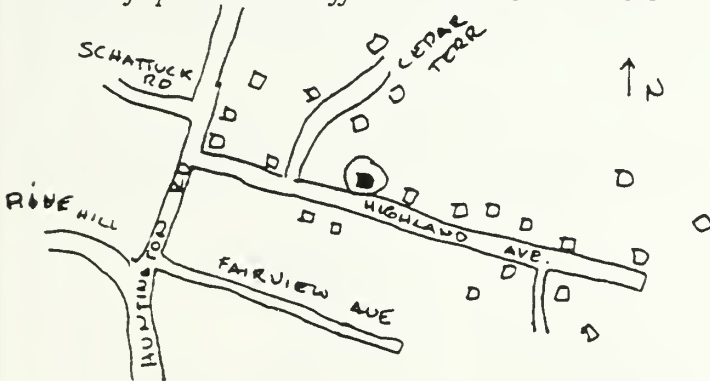
maple and spruce in front screen the facade, stone

retaining wall at front edge of lot.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 16, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This house was converted from a former out building or a chicken coop. It is composed of a main block of one and a half stories under a front gable roof, and a rear ell. A one story Craftsman style porch was an addition when the house was renovated as a dwelling. The entrance under the porch is placed in the center of the three bay facade. Paired windows were a commonly used arrangement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Reusing buildings for housing was commonly practiced in Russell and this is a good example, because their origins are not always easy to discern as is the case here. Other examples are found at 60 West Main Street and 155 Main Street.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Highland Street does not appear on the Atlas of 1894. It was probably laid out as a residential street after World War I, although it may have existed as a farm road on the farm of Charles Tinker. Tinker, appointed postmaster in 1839, lived at the head of the street at 98 Huntington Road. He and Polly Tinker had been involved in land purchases here since 1828. Farming remained an important economic activity in town until well into the 20th century, although most of the farm produce was used by the individual farm family with a relatively small surplus sold in urban centers such as Springfield. by the later 19th century, most householders both worked in nearby factories and cultivated their property.

In 1916 the Westfield Paper Company began making glassine papers in the old Blandford Brick and Tile factory on the west side of the Westfield River. This may have brought new jobs to the area, and the need for new houses.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards, Springfield, 1894.

Britton, Alice, Archival material and research notes, unpublished.



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-42

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Russell Center

MAIN

189 ~~East~~ Street

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Multi-family dwelling

Original Hotel

Construction c. 1895-1900

map, 1894, post card 1907

Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof slate (main roof), asphalt (porch)

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

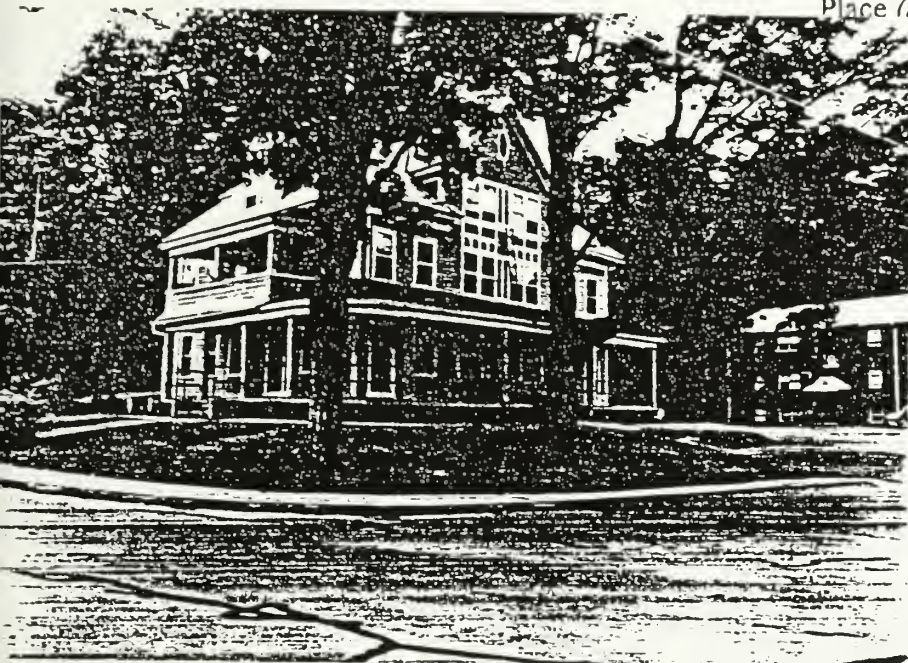
Converted to multi-family use, addition of iron rails

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

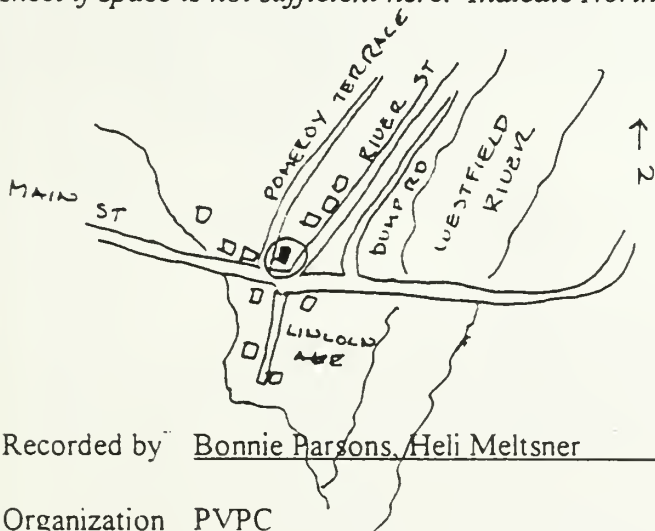
Acreage Less than one acre.

Setting On corner lot in village center, small front lawn.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 15, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story building was built as an hotel between 1894 and 1907. Its slate hip roof is a dominating feature of the lower end of Main Street. Large gabled dormers in the plane of the building on the east and west are embellished by a Colonial Revival roundel in the gable field and by stick or strap-work around the paired windows, an important decorative element, and the only one of the kind in town. The building is square in plan, with a one story porch with fluted pillars on north and east sides. A second story porch surrounded by a saw toothed shingled kneewall is centered over the porch on the east, or Main Street side.

It is interesting that, though built as an hotel, this building might easily be mistaken for the home of a wealthy family. It does little to communicate the semi-public nature of its use. However, the extensive porch must have been the indicator that this was the place to stop. Its iron rails do not appear in a 1907 post card view of the hotel.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Town historians state that, since the opening of the Western Railroad in 1841, later Boston and Albany Railroad, there has been a hotel in Russell Center. There was a hotel on this site on the maps of 1855, 1870 and 1894, though not this building. It provided a convenient stopping place for travelers journeying to summer resorts in Blandford and Otis, for traveling salesmen and for boarders who worked at the factories and mills in town. W.S. Lincoln and his new wife, Mary Gibbs, who later lived at 184 Main Street, lived at the old hotel before moving to the family homestead at the head of Lincoln Street.

Writing at the end of the 1870s, one writer stated that "the village numbers about 200 inhabitants, and in the summer and autumn seasons gains considerable business from the large influx of visitors who tarry there en route to the mountains of Blandford and Montgomery. The hotel, with the rail depot and two stores helped establish a commercial focus for Russell Center.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870

L.L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Copeland, Alfred M., History of Connecticut River Valley, Vol. 2., Century Memorial Publishing Co., 1902

Archival Material, collection of Alice Britton.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-9-11

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

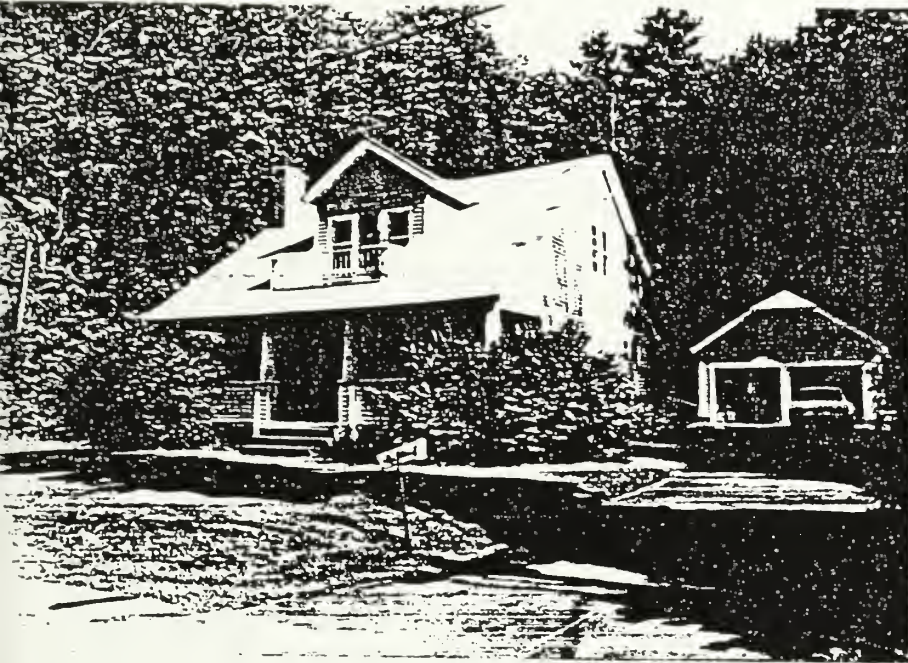
Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Address 123 Highland Avenue

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1920

Method of Analysis visual analysis

Form Bungalow

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation concrete block

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

vinyl sided

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

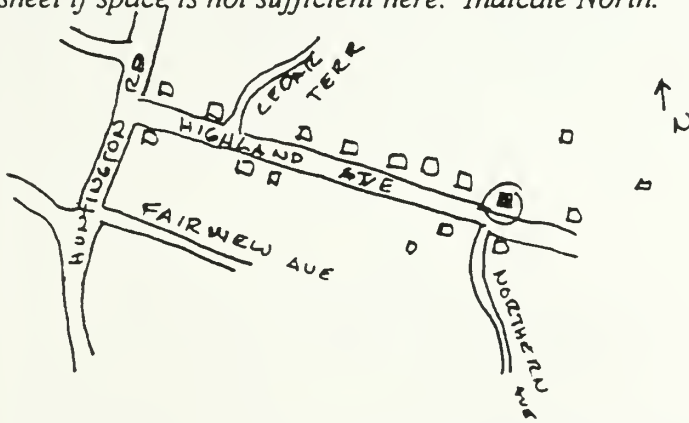
Setting Heavily wooded at east and north.

House oriented with front facing south. Drive at

east.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf; Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 16, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is an excellent example of the Bungalow style and house-form. One and a half stories high, the design stresses the low, cottage nature of the structure, though it contains living space on two stories. The sweeping roof extends from the ridge to shelter a porch supported on square battered pillars which rest on a knee wall. A wide dormer gives onto a small balcony, further emphasizing the roof-line.

The Bungalow style was popular in Russell in the 1920s and the style is well represented.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

As late as 1894, the land north of the houses on Main Street remained undeveloped. Highland Avenue was cut through the land of the old Tinker house, (98 Huntington Road), and laid out in lots after the turn of the 20th century. The population of Russell Center may have grown as a result of the growth of the Russell Falls, later renamed the Westfield River Paper Company around 1920. The mill manufactured glassine papers, used in packaging foods such as Ritz Crackers and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, and for transparent envelopes. The mill prospered from the 1930s through the 1950s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870

L.L. Richards and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_



Russell Center

Address 60 West Main Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Strathmore tool shed

Period of Construction c. 1870-1900

Current owner \_\_\_\_\_

Architectural Form utilitarian

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation or Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim tar paper exterior

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Addition of ell at west end with porch.

Condition Fair

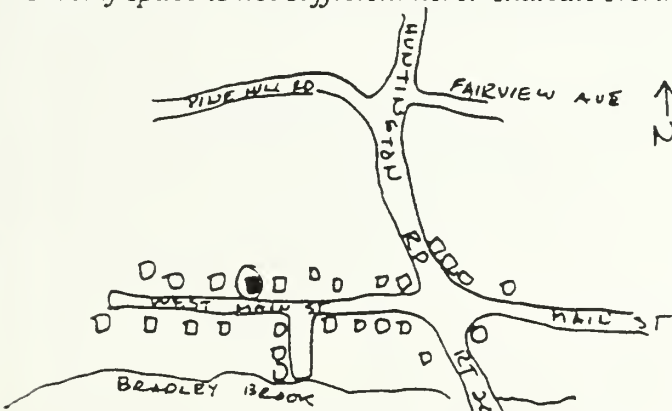
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting House upslope from road. Driveway at west edge of lot.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 16, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The main block of this small cottage was originally a tool shed at Strathmore Mills in Woronoco. To the tool shed was added an ell to the west to create an L shaped plan. This house plan, devised to gain more space than could be had in most gable ended houses, is perhaps the most common in Russell: many of the houses on Main Street are other examples. A porch across the front of the west addition with a turned post railing and the 2/2 sash suggest that the house was converted between 1900 and 1920. Converting surplus outbuildings to residential use was not uncommon in Russell. This was not a well to do community and its thrifty people reused buildings rather than building new ones for generations.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

West Main Street does not appear on the Atlas of 1894, and was probably not laid out until after World War I. Historically, the present Westfield Road did not exist between Old Westfield Road and Main Street. The north-south road, improved as the Eighth Massachusetts Turnpike in 1800 ran on the east, rather than as it does now, on the west of the cemetery. This section of the road was in use by 1923-24 when an addition to the old village school on Blandford Stage Road was moved and remodeled as the Russell Inn.

The first paper mill on the site of the present Strathmore Mill was built in 1872 by Jessup and Laflin. They were succeeded by the Vernon Brothers, Rosewell Fairfield, who renamed the village Fairfield, and, in 1905, by Horace Moses, who combined his Mittineague Mill with the old mill as the Strathmore Paper Company. In 1913 the Strathmore Paper Company constructed its large new Mill #2 across the Westfield River. It is possible that this former shed was either located on the site of the new mill, or was an outbuilding used during its construction and then sold.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Britton, Alice, Archival materials and research notes, unpublished.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number  
15-7-27

USGS Quad  
Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 55 Main Street

Common Name Town Hall

Present Use Town Hall

Original Use Town Hall/Library/Fire Station

Year of Construction 1915

Architect The New England Homesteads

Style Tudor Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material:

Foundation brick and stucco

Wall/Trim brick

Roof slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Two garages  
(one 3 bays, one 5 bays), one shed.

Major Alteration (with dates) shed roof additions of  
1 story, (N and E), south entry altered

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

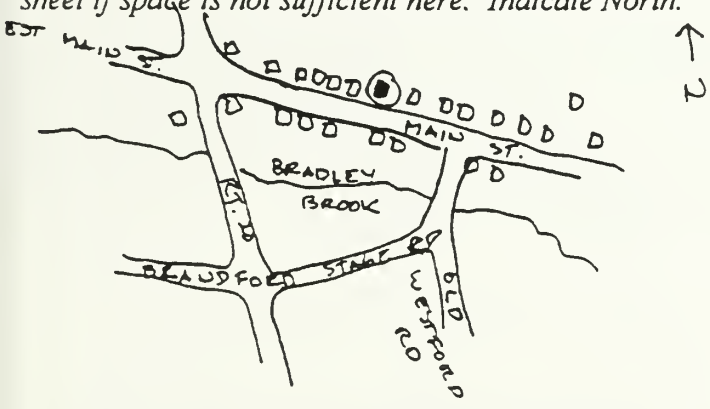
Acreage Approximately one acre

Setting Faces south in Russell's town center



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 28, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This building was the first in Russell to be constructed as a Town Hall, although it was to include the municipal functions of a Library on one corner and Fire Department on another. Designed in an assertive Tudor Revival style, it was followed in 1923 by the only other Tudor Revival style building in town, the former Russell Center School, now the Library. This long, H shaped building facing Main Street is two and a half stories high under hipped roof. It is symmetrically organized, with two shallow end pavilions flanking a center entrance which is sheltered under a gable hood.

The first story is in brick with a high cement water table; while the second story is stuccoed; embellished with half timbering, and appears to be supported by the stout wooden braces, rather than by the structural steel which was probably used. The half timbering was a structural necessity in Tudor times, but in 1915 the wooden members were only meant to suggest a romantic, English aristocratic look. The 8/8 and 6/6 sash were equally anachronistic, but continued the theme of an old building. Three gabled dormers between the large gables of the end pavilions light the third floor. The pavilions, dormers, and entrance hood have pointed end barge boards, hallmarks of the style. The north end of the main facade has an inset door area with vertical siding and three doors. The south end of the main facade, the former location of the fire station, was filled in. The center entrance is approached by a flight of granite stairs.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Town Hall was built in 1915 at a cost of \$23,000. In addition to the town offices it housed the Library and a Fire Department. The Town Hall was remodeled when the Library and Fire Departments moved to new quarters.

In Russell's early days as a town, its Town Meetings were held in the Methodist Meeting House on South Quarter Road at General Knox Road. Later Town Meeting was sometimes held in the 1825 Baptist Meeting House near the site of the Russell Inn. By the 1850s it was sometimes held in a room over the school located on Blandford Stage Road in Russell Center; but in 1866 the town voted to repair the old Baptist Meeting House for a school. In 1900 the Town Meeting had transferred from William Pomeroy's Hall over his store on Main Street at Pomeroy Terrace to Redman's Hall, the large hall opposite the Community Church.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

Map, 1870

The New England Homestead, March 19, 1927.

Britton, Alice, Archival materials and research notes, unpublished.

*National Register*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-5-7

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 10 Main Street

Historic Name Bessie Tinker House

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Period of Construction c 1856-1865

Map 1855

Style Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Major Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim clapboard shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Rear ell at

southeast added, one story side ell at

north added

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

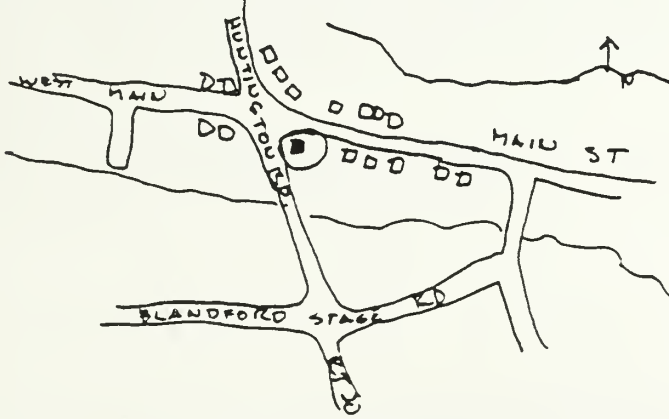
Setting Corner lot across from Catholic

Church, house faces northwest.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Heli Meltsner, Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 28, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story front gable cottage is T shaped in plan with a center chimney. It is one of several similar houses in Russell Center, for instance, the house at 102 Main Street which has retained more of its trim and that at 94 Main Street. Its entry is in an ell on the north facade, whose roof extends to cover the full width porch across the ell. Few other stylistic details remain: the steep pitch of the roof, granite foundations and the use of the popular T or L shape are evidence of its mid 19th century construction.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house does not appear on the map of 1855, but in 1870 it was the home of F. Tinker. The Tinker's were farmers whose land lay on the hill north west of Main Street along which Highland Avenue was later laid out. Two Tinker sisters lived here in the early decades of the 20th century. They were known for collecting money across town for the annual Ladies' Aid dinner. The family name was given to Tinker's Brook, so listed on the Atlas of 1894. It flows through town to the Westfield River.

Westfield Road from Main Street to what is now Old Westfield did not exist in 1894, when this house was owned by D. Moore. The major north-south route ran down Huntington Road, east on Main Street a short way, then turned onto Old Westfield Road, as the bridge over Bradley Brook was located here just above a grist and saw mill.

Russell Center expanded after the opening of the Western Railroad, (later the Boston and Albany) in 1841, when a depot was built at the end of Main Street. The area became the commercial and as well as ecclesiastical and civic center of the town.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

L. L. Richards & Co., Survey and Atlas of Hampden Co., MA, L.L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894..

*International Register*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-21

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

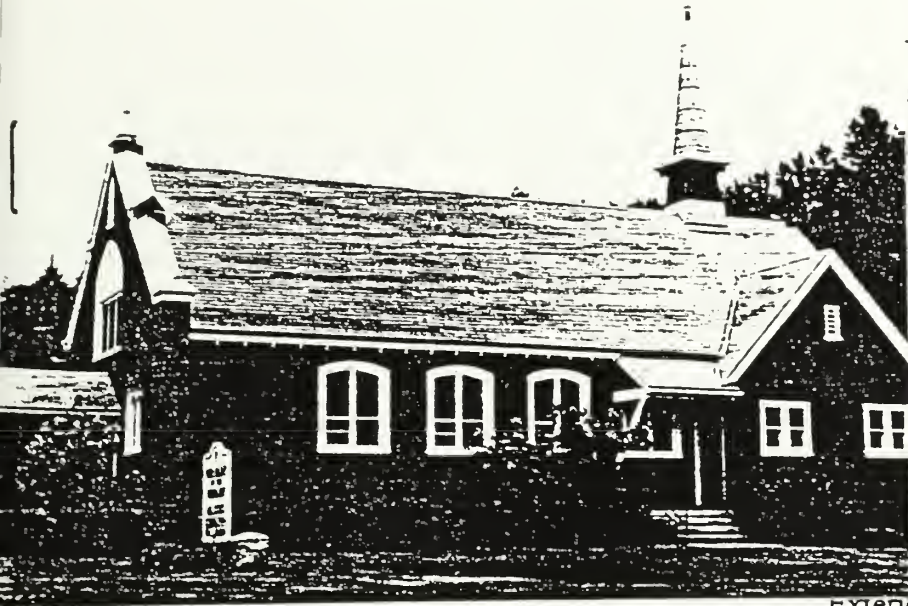
Area(s) Form Number

Empty boxes for area and form number.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

(neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 5 Huntington Road

Religious Name Our Lady of the Rosary

Present Catholic Church

Original Catholic Church

Year of Construction 1926

Source A New England Homestead

Style Tudor Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Wood shingle siding

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Rectory at west end

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Portico extended from hood and set on posts

Central window of facade altered

Condition Good

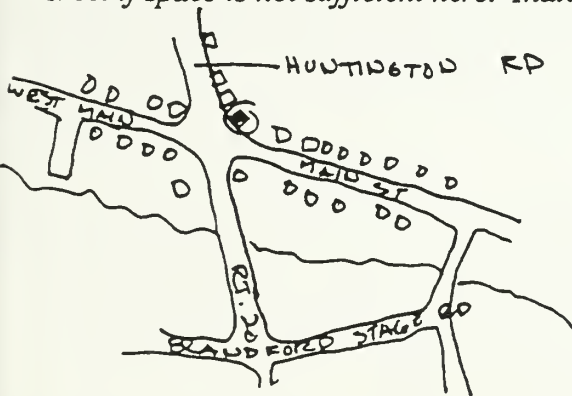
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres \_\_\_\_\_

Setting Church faces southeast on a corner lot at the intersection of Route 20 and Main Street in village center.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one story Roman Catholic church (1926) is simply detailed. Set on a corner at an important intersection and organized in a 3 bay by 7 bay cruciform plan, it presents the high gabled end as the major facade. The parapet of the gable is treated decoratively, its stepped white painted trim contrasts with the dark of the shingled wall surface. Above the entry portico is a wide vaguely Gothic arched window, now filled with replacement sash. Hooded double windows with original rounded ogive arch sash on the facade's first floor flank the double leafed entry door. The double, segmental arched windows of the nave and Craftsman style exposed rafters at eaves enliven the long side facade. An octagonal spire set on a square louvered belfry is located over the crossing. Like the parapet, it is topped by a cross. The small portico on posts of the facade is an alteration of the original door hood..

The choice of the Tudor/Gothic Revival for this church shows the longevity of this style for church architecture. Its builders retained from earlier tradition the symbolism of arches, bold parapet and spire in spite of its construction in frame and shingle rather than stone, and the influence of the new building styles of the 20th century.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history: Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Ground was broken for Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church in July, 1926 and the first mass was celebrated on Christmas, with Rev. John J. McCarthy officiating. The church seated 230 people. Until its construction, services were held in the school on Blandford Stage Road, the Town Hall and at Woronoco in the "Casino". Religious education took place in the Hotel on Main Street and later at the Russell Inn .

The land for the church was donated by Joseph DeCoteau who lived next door at 21 Main Street. He had been cutting wood in Montgomery with his son Ernest when a drink from a contaminated brook gave them both diphtheria. The father recovered, but when Earnest remained very ill, Joseph pledged money to build the church if his son recovered..

In the nearly 45 year period between 1870 and 1915, Russell's population nearly doubled, rising from 635 to 1,104. In 1880 the town's immigrant population was 23%, by 1905 it had risen to 30%, with Italians making up over 49% of Russell's foreign born population. Residents of Irish and French Canadian origin, such as Mr. DeCoteau, added to the Catholic population, making sufficient numbers to support a parish church.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Levey, Glen C., "Contributing Factors in Howard Movement at Russell, Mass.", The New England Homestead, Vol. 94. #12, March 19, 1927.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Potter, Jeff, Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Britton, Alice, Historical files, Historic Photographs.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-5-2

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Areas

Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 64 Main Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Huntington Lodge AE & AM

Original Hall

Period of Construction c. 1880-1893

Reference Map, 1894

Form Queen Anne / Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Asphalt shingle

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Asphalt shingle added,

Condition Fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Under one acre

Setting Faces north beside corner lot park on

Main Street of Russell Center.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This building was built as a hall, and, though modest, three features identify it as a public building - the building's scale, the large window in the full pediment and the deep portico with solid balustrade. Two and a half stories high under an end gable roof, it is at an institutional rather than residential scale. Rectangular in form, the door is centered on the wide three bay facade, the four bay deep building almost fills its lot. The building is stylistically mixed with turned Queen Anne posts supporting a gabled portico and multiple pane sash on both stories, yet the Palladian window in the gable field is a Colonial Revival style feature.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This may be the building which appears on the Atlas of 1894 next to, and owned by the Methodist Episcopal Church. However, by 1910, and perhaps as early as 1900, it was known as the Red Men's Hall. In 1900 the Town voted to transfer the Town Meetings from William Pomeroy's hall over his store on Main Street and Pomeroy Terrace to this building. Town Meeting met here until the new Town Hall was finished in 1915.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1869, was taken down in 1923 after the Protestant denominations in Russell decided to unite as the Community Church in the former Baptist Church across the street from this building. Its former site is now Memorial Park adjacent to the Masonic Hall.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

The Hilltowns, October 14, 1977, p. 3.

Benway, Henry Knox Reenactment, Russell, 1976.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

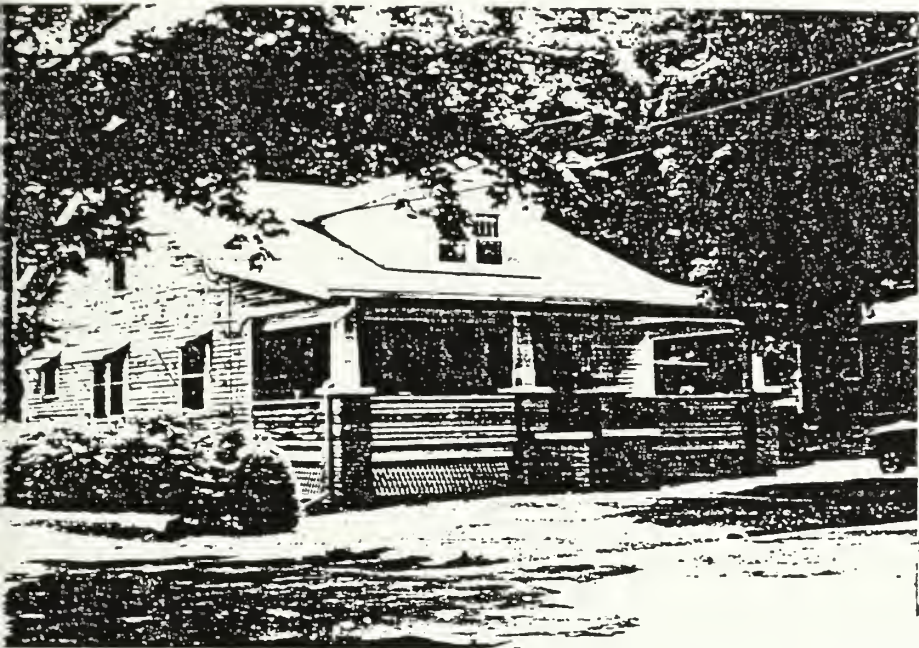
Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 126 Main Street

Owner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Construction c. 1920-30

Reference Atlas, 1894

Form Bungalow

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

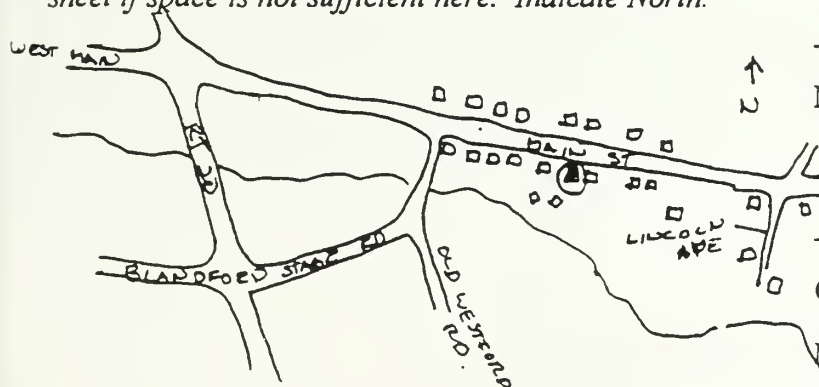
Acreage less than one acre

Setting On village main street, continues

streetline, mature trees on lot.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 1, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This 1 1/2 story cottage is an excellent example of the bungalow style. It is quite similar to another bungalow at 123 Highland Avenue, and was probably built about the same time. The house is dominated by its sweeping gable roof, which extends across the street facade to provide a deep porch. The porch roof is supported by battered columns standing on high plinths, while the shady porch itself is enclosed by a shingled kneewall. Decorative 4/1 sash on the front elevation is seen in the center gabled dormer and on the paired windows of the 3 bay facade. Long sidelights of the central entrance continue the Colonial Revival theme seen in the window treatment. In the Bungalow style the stoop was an important part of the design and function of the house. It is given special treatment here.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Russell's population between 1910 and 1915 grew by 27.8 people per year. Between 1915 and 25 it grew by over 26 per cent, after which it began a decline. In 1916 the Wesfield Paper Co. bought the Russell Falls Paper Co. mills, erected on the site of the burned Blandford Brick and Tile Co. works. It was located across the river from Russell Center. Possibly the impetus of this the new manufacturing firm was among the factors for the development of new housing in the teens and twenties in Russell Center.

This house appears to have been built on the site of the office belonging to a large tannery, which operated behind the office on Bradley Brook from the mid 19th century to 1873, when it burned and was not rebuilt. It was owned by the Osborns and later by D. B. Hull and Thomas Bryant. Bryant enlarged the plant and produced finished leather for making boots. In 1894 the building was owned by B Shelley, who lived next door. He was manager of a glove and shirt works in Russell, but the location of the business is unknown, and was possibly in his home.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Map 1870.

L. L. Richards and Co., Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Richards and Co., Springfield; 1894.

Copland, Alfred, Our County and its People, c. 1902.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "Russells's 150th Anniversary".

X National Register



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-6-13

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 184 Main Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present multi-family dwelling

Original single-family dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1840

Reference map of 1855

Style Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation or Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation brick and granite

Wall/Trim wood clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) Porches

added; windows replaced, cinder block chimney

added.

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

Setting Long lot with mature trees at the

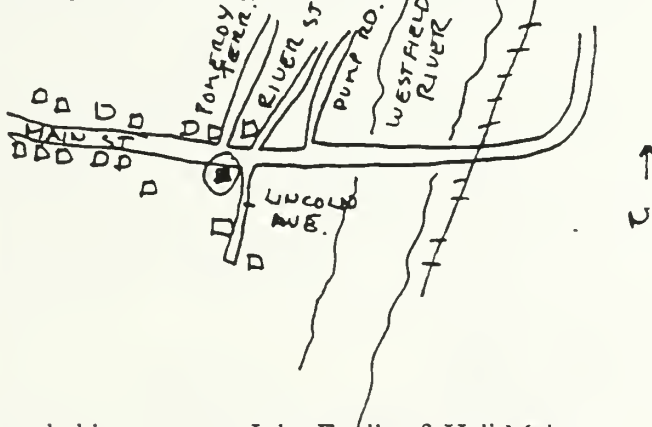
west edge, street/drive on east, granite retaining wall

on north section of prop. as lot is at higher elevation



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by John Egelhaaf, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 7, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This fine Greek Revival house has been altered over the years, but retains its temple form shape and much of its fine detailing such as the dentils of the cornice, the gable field window and the door surround. It is an excellent example of the local version of the Greek Revival style. The building is 1 1/2 stories high on high foundations, and has been extended in a rear ell with the distinctive feature of three closely set gable dormers in the plane of the elevation. Part of this ell may have been added soon after the house was built.

The main block is distinguished by wide corner pilasters with Doric capitals supporting a cornice and full pediment in the gable field. Centered in the gable field was a horizontally placed multi-pane window, a locally typical feature. This one is paneled and has corner blocks. Its multi-pane lights have been removed and a blind fan inserted. A two story porch with turned posts was added to the facade c. 1910-20. The original door surround featured pilasters supporting a three part entablature, now obscured by the porch. Particularly interesting is the paneled reveal of the inset door, another local feature. The door is flanked by 3/4 length sidelights and topped by a six light transom. Windows of the main block are 2/2, on the ell they are 6/4.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house appears on the map of 1855, along with the two others on Lincoln Avenue, but the name of the owner is obscured. However, in 1870 it was owned by Roland Parks. He was one of the town's most respected citizens, and prominently featured in a history of Hampden County printed about 1879. Born in 1803 in Blandford, he married Marcia Culver in 1836, moved to Russell and farmed. In 1842 he became station agent for the Western Railroad, later the Boston and Albany Railroad, whose stop at Russell Depot confirmed it as the town center. He was a Custom House inspector in Boston for four years. Parks kept a store next to this house for many years, one of two in the town that made it the focus of activity. The Post Office was sometimes located in the store, which continued under the ownership of Jarvis Gibbs. Parks served in the State Legislature in 1841, 1851 and 1864, was Justice of the Peace, and Special County Commissioner from 1873-77. He was especially active as Selectman, serving repeatedly from 1816 to 1864.

Jarvis Gibbs, a merchant, married Olive C. Parks, Roland's daughter and probably took over the store. In 1894 he is indicated as owning this house. The Gibbs' daughter, Mary T. Gibbs, married W. S. Lincoln in 1895. Lincoln had come from Maine to become the Superintendent of the Blandford Brick and Tile Works across the river. He was a Cemetery Commissioner in 1901. Mary Gibbs Lincoln and her daughter Olive were living in the house in 1955 when the flood destroyed much of Main Street. Olive served on the Town Historical Commission, was a local correspondent for the Springfield and Westfield papers, worked in the Strathmore and Westfield River Paper companies and has left an excellent reminiscence of the town.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855

Map, 1877

L. L. Richards, Atlas and Survey of Hampden Co., Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894

History of the Connecticut River Valley.

Mason, Louise, "Olive Winn", in Stone Walls, Spring, 1989.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-22

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area Form Number

Empty boxes for area and form number.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center



Address 21 Main Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

Year of Construction 1855

Source of Owner's records \_\_\_\_\_

Architectural Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder S. Bronson

Primary Construction Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Three bay garage barn

Major Alteration (with dates) Two one story Queen Anne wings, Two story porch at front facade (1913)

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

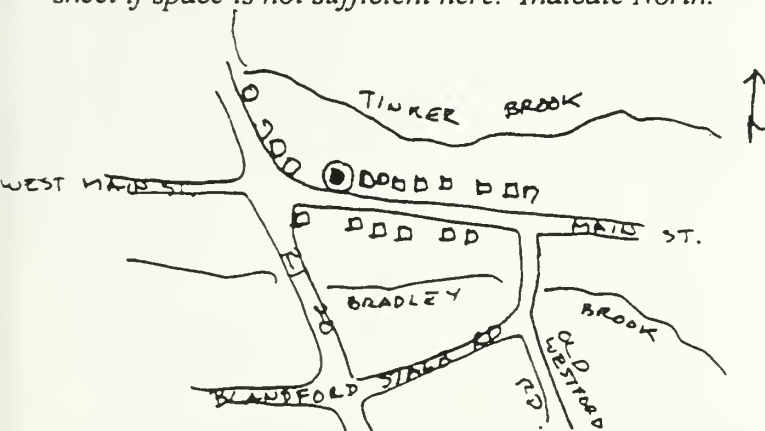
Acreage Less than two acres

Setting Faces Main St., in residential center village

Other Mature Japanese Maple in front yard.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 23, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a good example of a standard Greek Revival house, though this five bay and center entry form was not much used in Russell. It is two and a half stories high under a side gable roof, with two end wall chimneys at the ridge line. The door surround is composed of pilasters flanked by full length sidelights. Set on high brick foundations, the house is distinguished by wide cornerboards with Doric capitals supporting a deep cornice. Horizontally placed ten light windows light the gable fields, a very common local practice. Second story windows retain their 6/1 sash, the original sash on the first floor was replaced with 1/1 lights.

The two symmetrical one story wings were added in 1913 with the two story porch nearly across the facade. At that time the house was remodeled as a two family residence. The large Japanese maple in the yard was also planted in 1913.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is thought to have been constructed in 1855, when it appears on the map as owned by S. Bronson, possibly Sheldon Bronson who was a Selectman in 1855 along with Simon Mallory. The Bronsons were among the early settlers of Russell. In 1870 it was the home of A. Mallory. Mallorys were also early settlers, three are mentioned in a one history of the period and Simon Mallory, who lived at Salmon Falls, now Woronoco, was a fishing rod manufacturer and Selectman in the mid-19th century.

In 1913 the property was owned by Joseph DeCoteau- a logger in Blandford and Beckett as well as Russell. He had a blacksmith shop here, and used the large barn for his horses. Logging and industries associated with timber, a plentiful natural resource of Russell, were an important part of the town's economy from its earliest days through the turn of the century. DeCoteau converted this house into a two family dwelling, also building the house next door and four other houses in town. When a bridge across the Westfield River was washed away in the flood of 1938, DeCoteau ran a ferry with his work horses to the Westfield Paper Co. mill on the east side of the river from Russell Center. He moved to Russell from Canada.

The present owner believes this house to have been used as a school house before 1913.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1855.

Beers, S.W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

History of the Connecticut River Valley, vol.2, Lippencott, Philadelphia, 1879.

Springfield Sunday Republican, June 28, 1942, "Russell's 150th Anniversary Celebration"

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Areas

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 102 Main Street

Local Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Year of Construction c.1850

Reference map of 1855

Style Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Color or Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) corner porch added c.1940

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

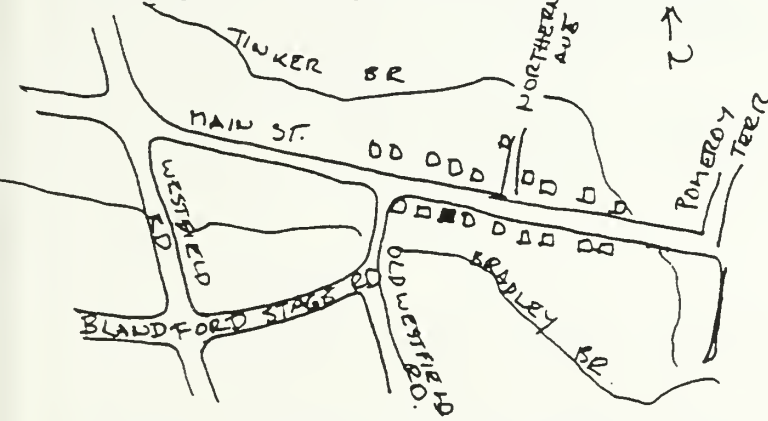
Acreage under 1 acre

Setting On wide lot with driveway curving to attached garage in rear. Maple trees at street.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 9/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story Gothic Revival house is the best preserved of four similar plan houses on Main Street (#118, #94 and #10). It is L-shaped in plan with a front gabled section two bays wide and the entry through a corner porch. There is a rear ell of one story. Wide cornerboards and cornice frame the cottage with full length first floor windows of 6/6 sash. In the gable is a rectangular 10/10 sash window, a feature which appears with some regularity in Russell and the nearby hilltowns on Greek Revival buildings which are contemporary with this house. Window surrounds are flat with small projecting sills for a footed appearance. The front gabled roof is more steeply pitched than previous styles and the pitch, together with the looped barge boards were intended to give the house a Gothic cottage appearance. The curving driveway may have been original to the house, further adding to the Romantic setting which was promoted by architect A.J. Davis for Gothic cottages at the time.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The center of Russell shifted from the Hazzad Pond area to Main Street after 1841 when the Boston and Albany Railroad came to town. Prior to that dated there were only a church, school and burial ground indicated on the map of 1831. This house was in place by 1855 and owned by H. Parks who was Horace Parks, grandson of Elias Parks, one of the first settlers in what was to become Russell. Among other things, Horace was depot master for forty two years at the Russell train station and was a town Selectman from 1870 to 1882. By 1894, this house and its neighbor at #118 were owned by D. Parks. The Parks family were the largest property owners in Russell and besides the real estate they owned, they farmed the land on the hillside northwest of Main Street.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Plan of Russell, 1831.

Map of Russell Center, 1855.

Beers, S.W. Atlas of Hampden County, Beers, Ellis and Soule, N.Y., 1870.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box for Assessor's number]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 83 Main Street

Local Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Year of Construction c. 1894-1900

Reference Atlas, 1894

Style Queen Anne

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

(1970s)

Major Alteration (with dates) porch

enclosed(1970s)

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage under 1 acre

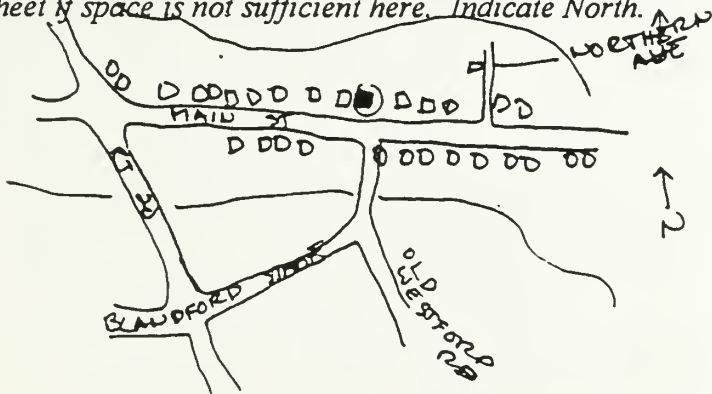
Setting Faces south in even set back with

neighbors, shaded by two maples at the street.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 9/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two and a half story house is probably the best example of the Queen Anne style in Russell. A narrow two bays wide, the house has the Queen Anne style's complexity of volume given by a rounded street bay and transverse gable on the east facade. A full square bay on the west has chamfered corners. It is decoratively finished on the surface with scalloped shingles in the gable field and between the first and second stories. A one story rear ell is original, but it would appear that the screened porch on the street facade was a later addition. Originally, the front porch had turned posts and a balustrade featuring square posts topped by wooden balls. It is pictured in the commemorative calendar for Russell's 200th anniversary celebration with a well at the rear and a gas light at the street edge; one of many which lit the downtown.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house must have been built on a subdivided property of the Knox house, which was demolished before the construction of Town Hall in 1915. Between 1870 and 1915 Russell's population nearly doubled, rising from 635 to 1,104. The growth, however, was relatively slow, averaging 4 to 5 people per year. In the decade that this house was probably built, 1895-1905, there was even a decline in population.

The civic and economic focus of the town remained at Russell Center in these years.. The railroad depot and tracks, which were shifted before 1894 across the Westfield River, gave impetus to economic activity in town. This house helped to make up a critical density which makes for a town center or "downtown" rather than simply a rail stop and a few general stores. It may have been constructed as a response to the increased business brought by the opening of the Norcross Brothers Blandford Brick and Tile Company factory, located across the river on the present site of the Westfield River Paper Company plant.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1870.

Richards, L. L. Atlas and Survey of Hampden County, L. L. Richards and Co., Springfield, 1894.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report: Russell, Boston, 1982.

Potter, Jeff. Russell: Portrait of a Small Town, Cummington, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

15-7-28

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) Russell Center

Address 47 Main Street

Historic Name Russell Community Church

Uses: Present Church

Original Church

Date of Construction c. 1853

Source Copeland, p.450

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Clapboard

Roof Tin

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Ell in rear

Major Alteration (with dates) Interior

cement block chimney added, possibly new

windows, front facade

Condition Good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

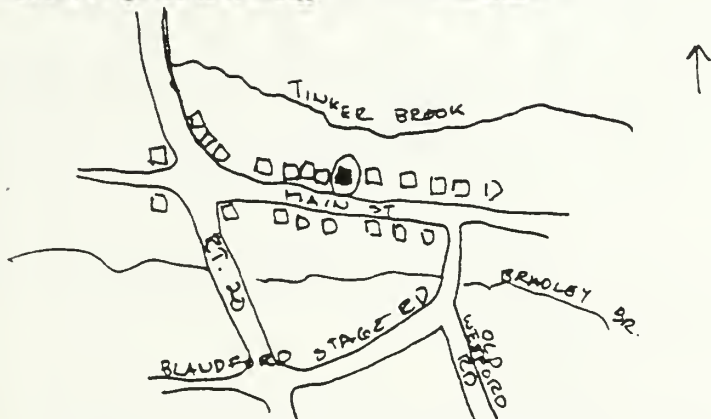
Setting Faces south in even set - back with

other buildings on the street.



Indicate the photo. Negative

Indicate the location of the building within individual streets with a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) June 28, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This two story Greek Revival church was designed to resemble a Greek temple. Set on high brick foundations, its gable end is turned to the street so that the roof line mimics a temple pediment. The full pediment of the gable field is emphasized by the wide stepped raking eaves and by flushboarding, (the clapboards laid smooth) at the center. The device appears in several houses in Russell Center (131 Main Street, 31 Lincoln Avenue, possibly 118 Main Street). The broad paneled corner pilasters are a feature of the later Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The church is unusual in being asymmetrical: the three bay facade has a side entry composed, as in local domestic architecture, of pilasters supporting a three part entablature. The church is entered through double leaf doors.

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The center, three stage steeple composed of a square base, louvered belfry with pilasters, and hexagonal steeple, relates more closely to Federal style church architecture. The perpetuation of Federal motifs was common in isolated communities. The church was built and furnished with a bell and organ at a cost of \$2,3000. The paired windows of the first and second stories may be a later alteration, as upper level fenestration interrupts the cornice line.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Baptists were the first religious organization to build in Russell Center. In 1789 Ruben Parks gave a deed to the United Baptist Society of Westfield for a lot near his house for a meeting house. A building committee composed of local men, among whom were Deacon Titus Doolittle of 468 Westfield Road, erected a meeting house in 1791-92 near the cemetery. The meeting house burned in 1820 (.Britton.) or 1823, (Holland), but was rebuilt on its site in 1825 to plans by local residents Marcus Bradley and Isaac Palmer. It served as Town Hall through much of the first half of the 19th century. In 1853 after another reorganization, the Baptists decided to erect this new church on Main Street. Its construction was overseen by committeemen William Dickinson, Joseph Gridley and Julius Bradley. On September 1, 1853 it was voted to occupy and dedicate the church.

Although the congregation voted to sell their old meeting house to the Town in 1858, it was not purchased until 1866. The Town voted \$700 to buy and repair the old Meeting House as a school, with a room upstairs for the Town Hall. The 1825 building remained a school until 1923, when the new school, now the Library, opened on Main Street. Then old meeting house/school was remodeled as a house at 46 Blandford Stage Road.

In 1923 the Protestant denominations in Russell united as the Community Church in this building. The 1869 Methodist Church at Russell Center was disassembled and reused, and its site became Memorial Park.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Map, 1831.

Map, 1855.

Beers, S. W., Atlas of Hampden Co., Beers, Ellis and Soule, N. Y., 1870.

Copeland, Alfred, Our County and its People, Century Memorial, 1902.

The Springfield Sunday Union and Republican, June 28, 1942, "Russell's 150th Birthday Celebration".

Britton, Alice, Unpublished research papers.

Holland, Dr. Josiah, History of Hampden Co., Vol 2, 1855.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address 50 Blandford Stage Road

Historic Name The Russell Inn

Present Inn and Bar

Original School, Inn and Gas Station

Year of Construction 1912-14

Reference Britton, Alice, research paper

Style/Form Eclectic/Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding, Texture 111

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

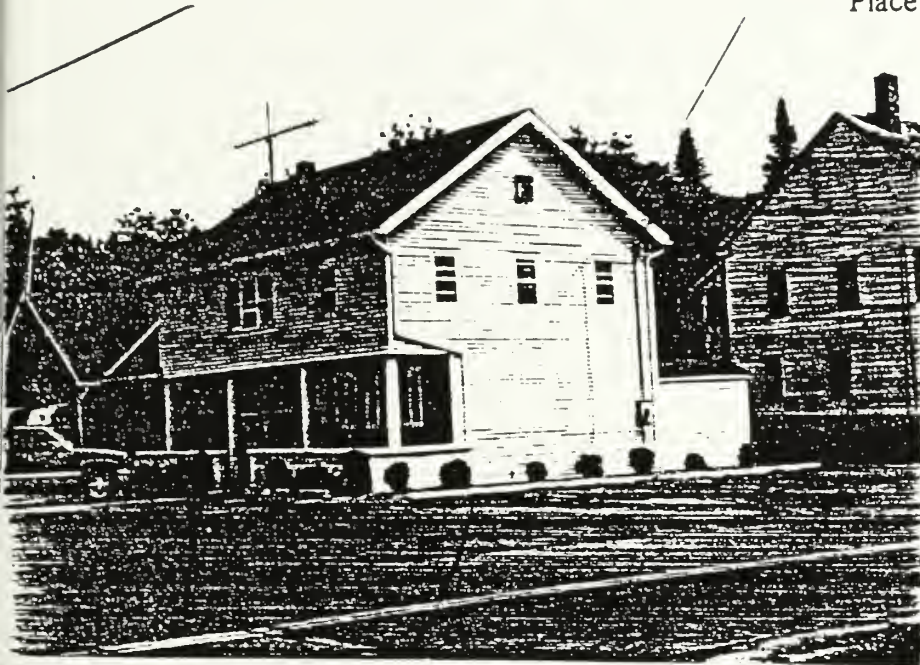
Major Alteration (with dates) front gabled wing added (c. 1970), sided, new fenestration, sash and door,

Condition Poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date c.1924-25

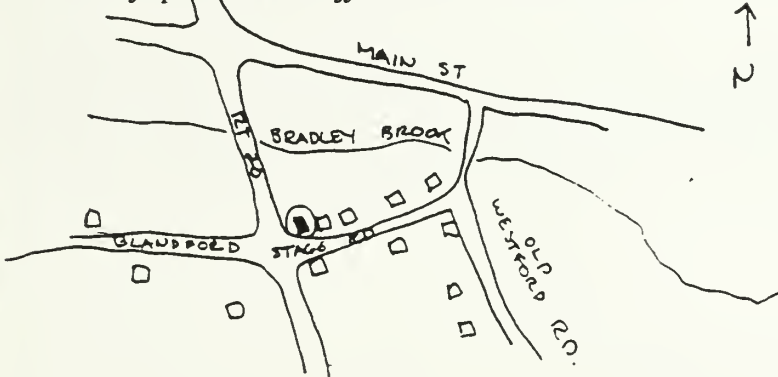
Acreage Approximately one acre

Setting Faces southwest on the corner of Route 20 and Blandford Stage Road, near village center.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons, Heli Meltsner

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) July 8, 1993

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This building was originally an addition on the Russell Center School which is behind it. The main block of the school was remodeled on its site into a two family house at 46 Blandford Stage Road, but this addition, added c. 1912-14, was moved to this site c. 1924-25. Unfortunately, it no longer retains any suggestion on the exterior of the original school building, or of its second use as an inn and gas station, except for its general massing and the distinctive shape of the indented first floor with the second floor supported on four c. 1924 Colonial Revival columns. On the interior, the original tin ceiling of the school remains intact. Because of unsympathetic alterations the building has lost most of its architectural integrity.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This building was originally an addition to the Russell Center Schoolhouse. The school, now 46 Blandford Road, was originally the Baptist Meeting House, built in 1825 on the site of the former Baptist Meeting House of 1792 which had burned down in 1820. The building was frequently used as a Town Hall when it served as meeting house. After the Baptists erected their new Church on Main Street, (now the Community Church), the 1825 building was vacant. The Town purchased and repaired it as a school, with a room upstairs for Town Meetings, in 1866. It served as a school until the new school on Main Street, now the Library and Fire Department, was opened in 1923.

When the new school opened, this 1912-14 addition was moved to this site and remodeled as an inn and gas station. Called The Russell House, a c. 1930 photograph shows a three pump island in front selling Socony gas and a large sign welcoming tourists and advertising lunch and dinners. An outbuilding was located where the present c. 1970 addition stands. The Inn has played an important role in the life of the community.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Britton, Alice, Research papers in historic files. Unpublished.  
Town of Russell, Two Hundred Years: Historical Calendar. Russell, 1992.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM F - STRUCTURE

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

--

USGS Quad

Southwick, Blandford, Woronoco
--------------------------------------

Area(s)

--

Form Number

--

Town Westfield, Russell, Huntington

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location \_\_\_\_\_

Name Western Massachusetts Street Railway

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- bridge
- canal
- dam
- fort
- gate
- kiln
- lighthouse
- pound
- powderhouse
- carousel
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

other (specify) street railway track bed

Date of Construction 1905

Source Stone Walls, 1978

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) earth, stone

Alterations (with dates) Line demolished 1926

Condition Poor to Fair

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage unknown

Setting Bed runs sporadically between

Westfield and Huntington.

Photograph

(3" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5", black and white only)  
Label photo on back with town and property address.  
Record film roll and negative numbers here on the  
form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space.  
Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

roll      negative(s)

--	--

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the structure's location in  
relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major  
natural features. Show all buildings between struc-  
ture and nearest intersection or natural feature.  
Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle  
and number the inventoried structure. Indicate  
north.

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) December 27, 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This is one of three known rail beds in the Route 20, Jacob's Ladder Trail, corridor. Two of them were trolley lines and one a railroad. The Westfield Street Railway bed like the others is an earthen berm which varies in height or depth according to its location, but in width it is generally about 10-15 feet. The entire bed is no longer intact, but sections of it can still be traced and walked along in Huntington and Russell. The line began in Westfield on Western Avenue and went out Bates Road. It stopped first at the Russell/Westfield town line, then went to Woronoco and behind the Post Office. It went to Russell following the Old Westfield Road at intersection with Blandford Stage Road where there was a rest station in the home of Alfred Copeland. The line then crossed an iron bridge behind the Masons's Hall followed Main Street west and followed the south side of Route 20 to River Bend Park, Crescent Mills and on to Huntington where it stopped in front of the Federated Church.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Western Massachusetts Street Railway from Western Avenue to Huntington Center was built in 1905. In 1907 a section from Westfield's Park Square to Western Avenue was made a part of the line as well. It took 45 minutes to go from Park Square to Juntinton and cost 20¢. There was a stage transfer to Blandford in Russell. People used it to go to work in the Russell paper mills, to go to school in Woronoco, to the Russell Hotel for entertainment. It acted as a freight service thanks to its flat bed car even transporting a pre-fabricated house to Russell in addition to sand, gravel. During snowstorms townspeople voluntarily shovelled the tracks, so important was the line; however, in 1926 the tracks were taken up as bus travel was so much more popular.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Britton, Alice. Stone Walls, Summer, 1978, Vol. 4, #2, "Western Massachusetts Street Railway Line".

Bush, Homer E. Stone Walls, "Changes in Transportation I Have Known in my Lifetime".  
n.d.

- Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

1,2,3,23,

USGS Quad

Blandford/  
Woronoco

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

Empty boxes for Area Letter and Form Numbers in Area.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Russell, Granville, Blandford



...d or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Cobble Mountain Reservoir

Source of water for City of \_\_\_\_\_

...or Period 1927-1932

...excellent

...d Alternations none

...0 acres

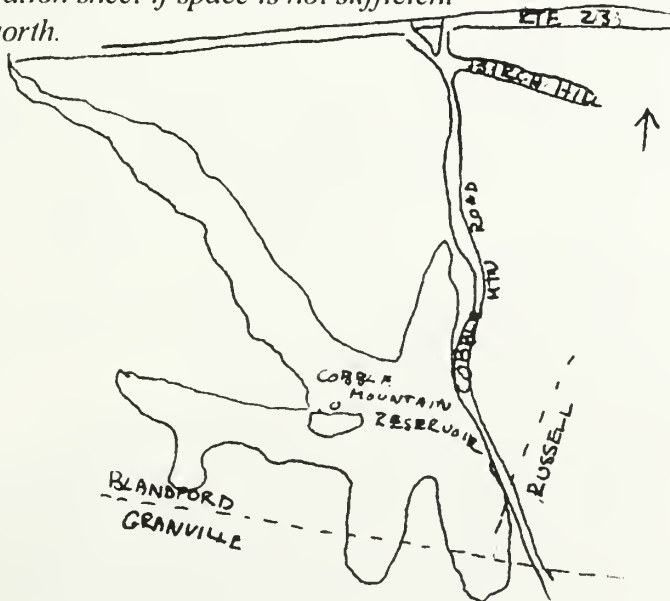
...ie Parsons

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Circle and number properties for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a continuation sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) 26 October 1993



## AREA FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

The Cobble Mountain Reservoir is composed of woodland, the reservoir which has a 22.8 billion gallon capacity and is fed by the Little River, two dams and a spillway area, in addition to gates, a power house and filtration plant. In Russell are located two dams, about 50 acres of reservoir and approximately 4700 acres woodland watershed land. In the watershed located in Russell are found the old cart roads and paths which extended west from South Quarter Road and Birch Hill Road to the border with Blandford and in a north and south direction as old Cortis Road. These are still relatively clear ways lined in many places with stone walls and sugar maple trees which often mark the location of the remaining cellar holes and foundations of the original farm houses and outbuildings. Along the cart paths at the border with Blandford are a series of granite border markers between two and three feet high inscribed with "R" and "B" on each side. They appear to vary in date from the 19th century to the 20th century as identified by their shape and lettering style.

The large earthen dam crossed by Wildcat Road in Russell is approximately 600 feet long on its upper level and descends north east into a valley for about a quarter of a mile to terminate in an arc shaped concrete abutment which is about 100 feet long and which contains the exit pipes for the Little River overflow from the Reservoir.

A second concrete dam approximately 500 feet across is located off Gorge Road and across the Little River as it crosses the south east corner of Russell between Granville and Westfield.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

The Cobble Mountain Reservoir is one of three reservoirs constructed by the City of Springfield in the towns of Granville, Blandford and Russell between 1907 and 1932. The first was the Borden Brook Reservoir which was built between 1907 and 1909; the second two were the Cobble Mountain and the Provin Mountain reservoirs. Cobble Mountain was built between 1927 and 1932. At its completion the earthen dam was the highest of its kind in the world. In order to construct the Cobble Mountain Reservoir with its many acres of watershed land, it was necessary for the City to buy out the Woronoco Heights farms which occupied the south west area of Russell, after which they were burned down. According to Dietrich Schlobohm in his article on Cobble Mountain, the construction of the reservoir accelerated the abandonment of farms in the area which has already begun about 1850 when the industrial cities of western Massachusetts began attracting people away from their farms. Through the 1920s these farmers earned their living by a series of jobs from raising sheep to tapping maple trees and cutting ice from the ponds in winter, as there were no staple crops and the land was unsuitable for large scale farming. While farming in general was in decline in the hilltowns and in Russell, the loss of many of them was the end of a way of life for many families.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Town of Russell, Assessors Maps.

Schlobohm, Dietrich. "Cobble Mountain" in Stone Walls, Spring, 1988.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property Address

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

RUSSELL GRANDVILLE  
BLAND FORD

Area(s)	Form No.





FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-24

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Empty boxes for Area(s) and Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lee

Address 431 Cape Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Date of Construction c. 1850-1870

Source atlas of 1871

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation concrete covered

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

former flower shop

Major Alteration (with dates) additions on

north, south and west from 1970s

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 2.3 acres

Setting Set close to road behind tall

evergreens and picket post fence.

Photograph

(3" x 3" or 3" x 5", only black and white)  
Staple onto the left side of the form. Indicate the address of the property on the back of the photo. Indicate the roll and film number of the negative here on the form.

roll film number

Empty boxes for roll and film number

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a modest, two story Italianate style house to which several additions have been made which obscure the original details of the building. However, the front gabled roof with full returns forms a pediment and the building's tall proportions identify it stylistically as belonging to the Italianate period. A shed roof extension has been made on the street or south side, and a shallow gabled porch extension has been made on the west. There is an attached garage with roof deck on the north. The building has been covered with dark brown shingles.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Early in its history, this house may have been a rental property as it appears as one of several houses owned by Mrs. J. Baker on the atlas of 1876. Until the last decades of the 19th century, East Lee had been a modes manufacturing center with a number of mills and shops located on the two brooks, the Goose Pond Brook and the Greenwater Brook, which traversed the area. So East Lee was home to those who were involved in this manufacturing, but also to a small number of farmers who raised crops for their own use and sold excesses to local markets. By 1895 the house was owned by Sylvanus Gifford who was a member of the Gifford family of East Lee who were primarily farmers. Most of their acreage was located further east on Route 20, but several houses along this route were at one time or another in their ownership.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W.Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM F - STRUCTURE

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street

Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

[ ]

Form Number

[ ]

Town Becket

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location Route 20

Name Jacob's Ladder Trail

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- bridge
- canal
- dam
- fort
- gate
- kiln
- lighthouse
- pound
- other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- powderhouse
- carousel
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

Date of Construction 18th century

Source Reconnaissance Survey, MHC

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) packed earth

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition poor

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 1 1/2 miles

Setting North side of Route 20

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

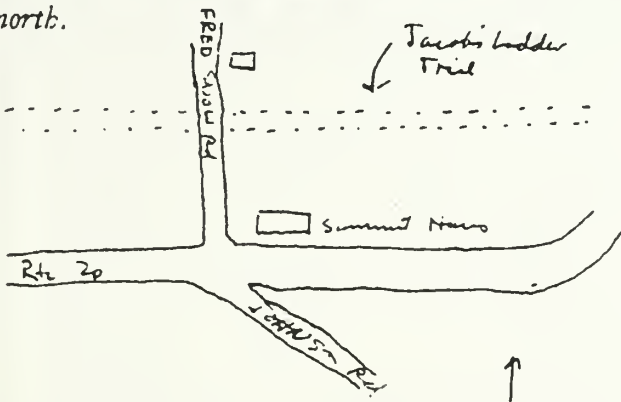
Date (month/year) December 29, 1993



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address.  
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major  
then struc-  
ture.

Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried structure. Indicate north.



## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

This is a section of the road which became known as Jacob's Ladder, a now abandoned roadway which is approximately 1 1/2 miles long and crosses Morey Hill in Becket in an east-west direction. It looks like a deep ravine, largely overgrown with underbrush from the past 80 years, rising and descending the hill from Route 20. However, the vegetation is not as dense as the land adjacent to the roadway which makes it a visible way especially when the leaves are down. It is about 20' wide and in some spots it is several feet deeper than the adjacent land due to the erosion caused by weather and by a small stream which runs parallel to it. The uneven roadway has been eroded, but also it was graded in plateaus to allow for resting stops and to control flooding. These plateaus are called "Thank you ma'ams" and can still be discerned in places.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

Jacob's Ladder Trail, Route 20, was originally, in large sections, a Native American path between the Connecticut River valley and the Housatonic River Valley. It was adopted by settlers to western Massachusetts as part of the Bay Path during the Plantation and Colonial periods and became a toll road in 1804. This section of the road was difficult for horse drawn wagons, but at the advent of the automobile it became well-known as a deterrent for travel between the two valleys and was possible in some seasons only with the help of local farmers who are said to have hauled the cars by oxen over the hill. At the instigation of the wealthy Lenox resident, Cortlandt Field Bishop who had his first car in 1897, the state agreed to rebuild this section of the road to skirt the hill, a job which was accomplished in 1910 at the cost of about \$100,000. So great was the relief of motorists that a large celebration to mark its opening was held with Mrs. George Westinghouse leading the ceremonies, representatives of the towns and automobile clubs coming for the speeches and picnic. The Trail was billed as the first of the Great Mountain Cross-overs and was the subject of numerous post card views touting its scenic qualities. At least three origins for the name "Jacob's Ladder" for this section of the road have been suggested. One is that Bishop thought of it after hearing a sermon on Jacob's Ladder. Another is that Jacob Carter, a nearby farmer was the person who hauled the cars over the hill with his ox team. The third is that another farmer, Deacon Daniel Camp whose long white beard made him look like the prophet Jacob was the one who rescued cars.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

- Archer, C.A. and M. Mulholland. A Bicentennial History of Becket, Becket, 1965.  
Crane, William. Personal Interview.  
Walling & Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.  
Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.  
Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Becket

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address Jacob's Ladder Trail

Historic Name Brookside Farm

Present dwelling/golf course

Original dwelling/farm

Year of Construction 1857

Source History of Becket

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures 3

barns, garage and golf shack

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage over 1 acre

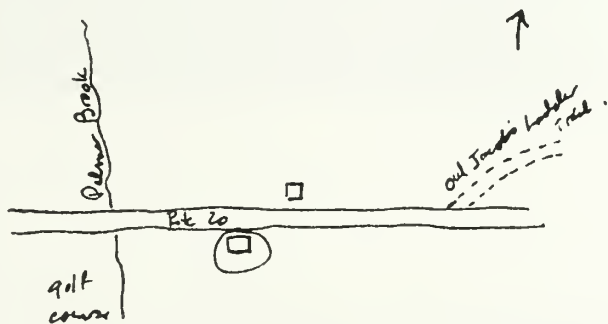
Setting Set close to road, facing north in

valley of marsh land



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 12/1/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a two and a half story Greek Revival house which has a front gable roof. It is three bays wide and has a side hall entry plan. There is an ell extension on the south which gives the building a rectangular plan. This is one of the best examples of the Greek Revival style on Jacob's Ladder Trail. The main recessed entry is framed by rather broad pilasters supporting a full entablature. Half length sidelights and a small transom surround the panelled door. The rear kitchen ell has a side porch with Queen Anne turned posts. One of the more intact farms along this road, there are three barns, and a garage as part of the barnyard complex. There is a single story golf shack near the road as well. The farm land has been converted to a golf course which makes use of the brook which runs in a north-south direction across the property and is edged by marsh land.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This farm was owned by the Geer family who were active in Becket history during much of the 19th century as store owners and farmers. The original farm house on this site had been built in the first decades of the 19th century and was burned down by an arsonist in 1857. Tracks left in the snow by the arsonist, led to his capture. The house was rebuilt in the same year. In 1976, the farm land was landscaped into a golf course and has been maintained as such since that time.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Crane, William. Personal Interview.

Beers Atlas, 1876.

Walling Atlas of 1873.

USGS map reprinted in 1946.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM F - STRUCTURE

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

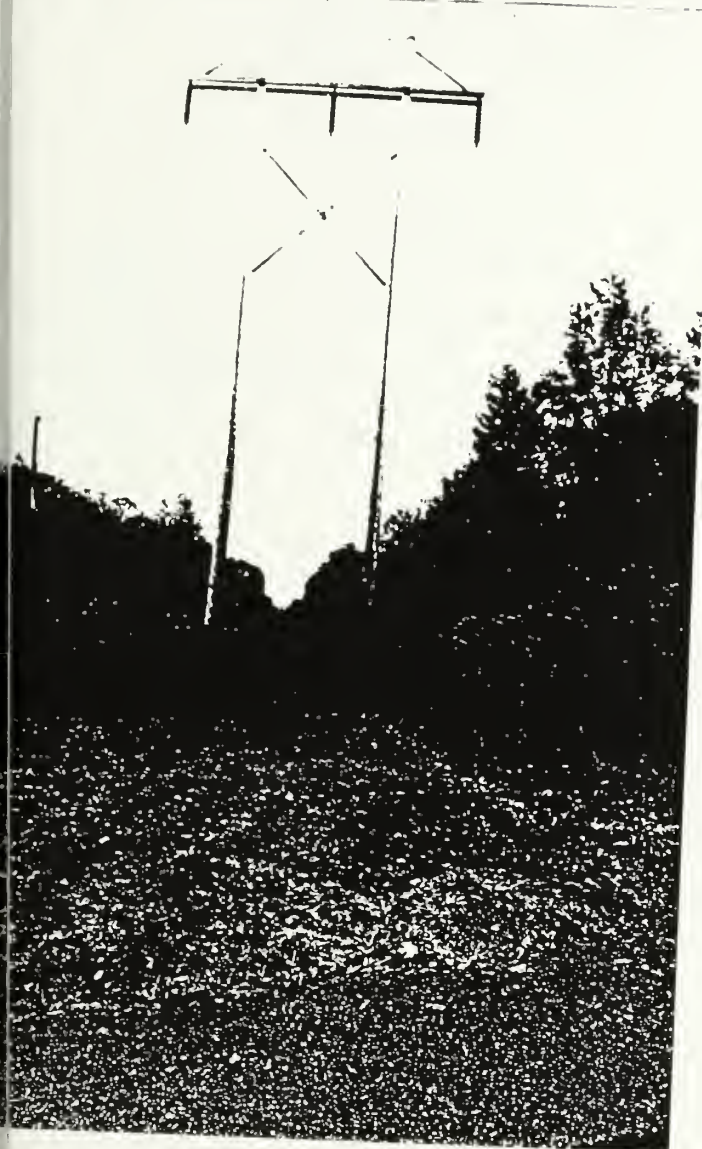
Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number



See attached

Town <sup>Becket</sup> Lee, Otis, Blandford, Huntington

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location Lee to Huntington  
 along Route 20 and Mass Pike

Name Huckleberry Trolley Line

Ownership  Public  Private

Type of Structure (check one):

- |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bridge     | <input type="checkbox"/> powderhouse  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> canal      | <input type="checkbox"/> carousel     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dam        | <input type="checkbox"/> boat or ship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fort       | <input type="checkbox"/> street       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gate       | <input type="checkbox"/> tower        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> kiln       | <input type="checkbox"/> wall         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lighthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> windmill     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> pound      | <input type="checkbox"/> tunnel       |

other (specify) trolley line track bed

Date of Construction 1911-1912

Source Spencer. Chronicle on the Huckleberry

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) earth and stone

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition Not entirely intact

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage c.24 miles long

Setting Line extends from Berkshire to Hampden

county through foothills.

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Date October 21, 1993

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

The Huckleberry Trolley Line track bed is a railroad bed approximately 24 miles long, many of whose sections can still be identified between Lee and Huntington, Massachusetts via Otis and Blandford. In Lee, it varies in elevation to accord with the topography and is occupied by utility poles and lines for a portion of its length. This follows for Otis and Blandford, but after Blandford it is not used by the utility company. The bed varies in width from approximately 100 to 20 feet and it is still passable for pedestrians in many sections, especially where utility companies maintain a path. Its general path follows Route 20 east from Lee until 20 intersects Route 8. A short distance east of the intersection the bed shifts southward to Otis and then east to Blandford where it descends Cooks Mountain along the Blandford-Huntington Road to Huntington Town Center. A Greek Revival farmhouse, the Houston House, on Route 20 in Becket served as an office/ticket center and is still in existence, although vacant.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Lee to Huntington trolley line which became known as the Huckleberry Line during its first season of operation was constructed by the Western Massachusetts Contracting Company for the Berkshire Street Railway (owned by the New Haven Railroad) in response to the demand from the hilltowns whose farms were in steep decline due to their inability to get goods efficiently to market and who hoped to increase tourism to their region. Originally it was slated to follow Route 20 from Lee to Huntington through Chester, but Blandford residents lobbied for its construction through Blandford and eventually this was done. Construction began in 1910, but multiple delays and stoppage meant it did not open for seven years and ran only two seasons, 1917 and 1918, before it was declared a financial loss and closed down in 1919. Tracks were torn up between 1921-28. Construction of the line without equipment cost \$3,000,000. Work done by steam shovel and hand. There were several large concrete arched bridges and many culverts constructed, but at Huntington there was no connection with the Springfield Street Railway's Westfield Division whose tracks were only a few feet away. The street railway was not profitable and lost almost every year from 1906 to 1932. Along the Huckleberry Line the population was small, scattered; the through traffic which was greatly hoped for was non-existent. Shipping farm produce was spoken of only at initiation of the project, but never came to fruition.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Spencer, Leonard Holmes. Chronicle on the Huckleberry, ms. 1967.

Cummings, O.R. "Berkshire Street Railway", Transportation Bulletin, no. 79, January-December, 1972.

- Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

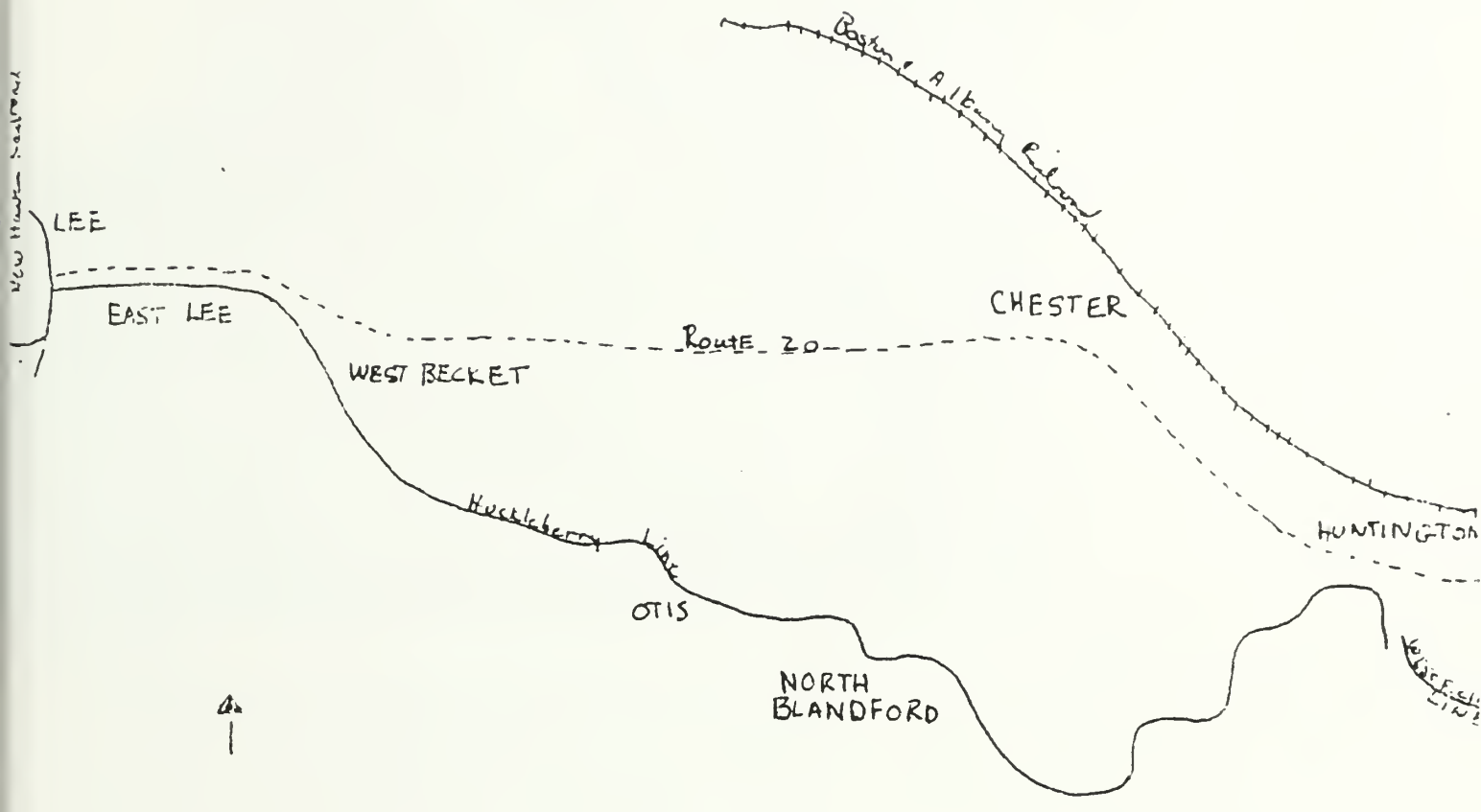
INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

County: Property Address

LEE BLANDFORD OTIS  
BECKET HUNTINGTON

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s)	Form No.



NOT TO SCALE



FORM C - OBJECT

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

[ ]

Form Number

[ ]



\_\_\_\_\_ (r village) \_\_\_\_\_

Route 20 at Fred Snow Rd.

adder Trail stone Cairn

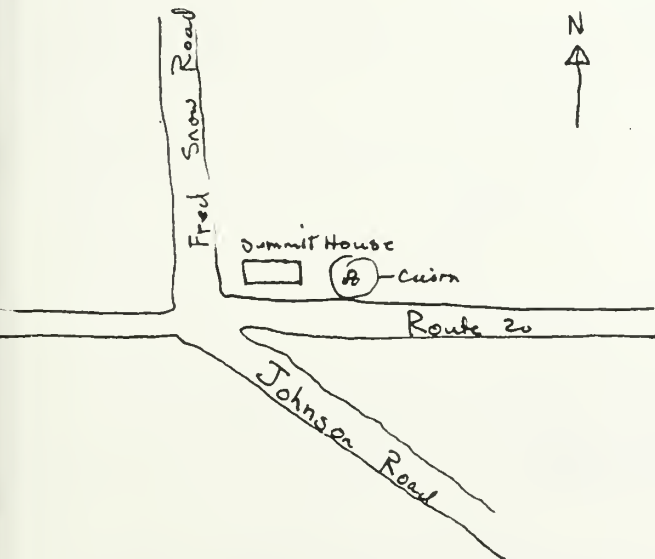
Public  Private

one):

- monument
- milestone
- marker
- bust

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the object's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between object and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried object. Indicate north.



Date of Construction 1910

Source Berkshire Eagle, September 24, 1910

Designer/Sculptor none

Materials granite, concrete, brick

Alterations (with dates) c.1930 reduced in size

Condition poor

Moved  no  yes Date c.1930;1970

Acreage over one acre

Setting Set on the north side of the road on east side of Summit House.

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) 1-0/26/93

## OBJECT FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe the design features of the object, and evaluate in terms of other similar types of objects within the community.*

This is a unique monument in Becket. It was originally a stone cairn, a pile of rocks, bricks and engraved dressed stones which stood over 15 feet in height. Now it has been set in mortar in a pyramidal shape and trimmed to a monument approximately one foot thick and eight feet wide. The stones have been painted brown. Included in the monument are commemorative stones beginning with the cap stone which says "Albany, N.Y. September 24, 1910." Another advertises "Lerner Waists" from New York City. A third has the logo of the Anheiser/Bush Brewing Company and several have names of soldiers inscribed on them.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the object, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Jacob's Ladder Trail stone cairn was begun on September 24, 1910 at the dedication of the newly constructed one and a half mile section of state highway in Becket which avoided the treacherous Jacob's Ladder. Celebrators brought stones from their towns and it was later reported that stones were "acquired from all of the original American states and various historic spots." (Line Harger. Berkshire Eagle, 9/22/50.) Symbolic of the impending importance of the automobile, local automobile clubs contributed stones. These clubs recognized the importance of the automobile to travel and tourism which was now made more accessible across the Berkshires. The cairn was originally set on the north east corner of the Trail and Fred Snow Road. In 1930 it was moved across the road and set in mortar; and sometime after 1946 it was moved to its present location east of the Summit House. At that time the monument was scaled down, boulders were sheared off, the principal one having been the entry stone to a nearby farm.

### ENTIRE INSCRIPTION (if applicable):

There are individually inscribed stones still to be seen in the monument: "Albany, N.Y., September 24, 1910"; "Lerner Waists, N.Y.C., 1910"

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Country Journal, September, 1910.

Valley Echo, April 15, 1910.

Bruso, Shirley Phelps. Growing up on Jacob's Ladder, privately printed, 1982.

Harger, Line. Berkshire Eagle, "Jacob's Ladder", 9/22/50.

- Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-24

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lee

Address 431 Cape Street

Historic Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Period of Construction c.1850-1870

Source atlas of 1871

Form Italianate

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation concrete covered

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_  
former flower shop

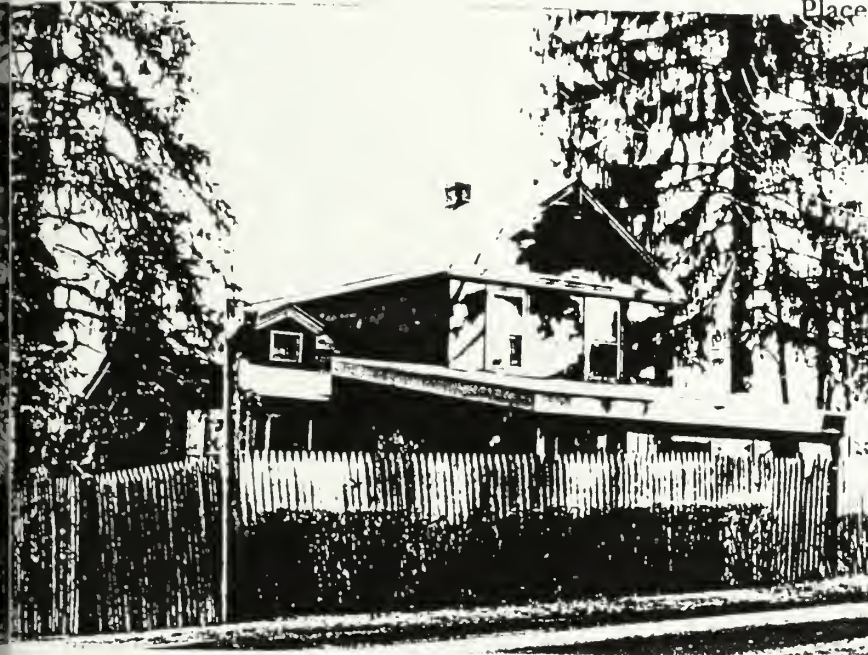
Major Alteration (with dates) additions on north, south and west from 1970s

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

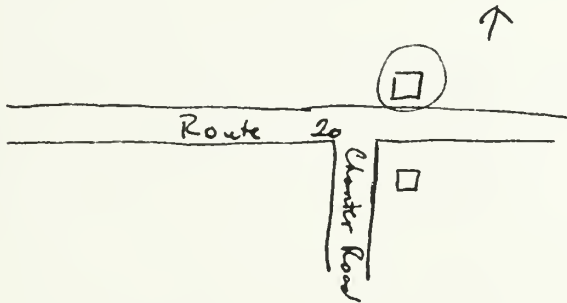
Acreage 2.3 acres

Setting Set close to road behind tall evergreens and picket post fence.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a modest, two story Italianate style house to which several additions have been made which obscure the original details of the building. However, the front gabled roof with full returns forms a pediment and the building's tall proportions identify it stylistically as belonging to the Italianate period. A shed roof extension has been made on the street or south side, and a shallow gabled porch extension has been made on the west. There is an attached garage with roof deck on the north. The building has been covered with dark brown shingles.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Early in its history, this house may have been a rental property as it appears as one of several houses owned by Mrs. J. Baker on the atlas of 1876. Until the last decades of the 19th century, East Lee had been a modes manufacturing center with a number of mills and shops located on the two brooks, the Goose Pond Brook and the Greenwater Brook, which traversed the area. So East Lee was home to those who were involved in this manufacturing, but also to a small number of farmers who raised crops for their own use and sold excesses to local markets. By 1895 the house was owned by Sylvanus Gifford who was a member of the Gifford family of East Lee who were primarily farmers. Most of their acreage was located further east on Route 20, but several houses along this route were at one time or another in their ownership.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W.Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, 1978.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-13

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s) Form Number

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lee



Cape Street

dwelling

dwelling

on c.1850

of 1871

onic Revival

visible

Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage and two sheds

Major Alteration (with dates) porch enclosed on west c.1960; front porch removed c.1990.

Condition fair

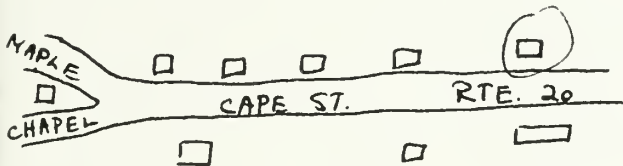
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage .41 acres

Setting Faces south and is set back from the road more than neighbors.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a one and a half story Gothic Revival house with a front gable roof which is tin covered and has no returns. The main entry is in an outside bay for a side hall plan. The door surround has lost some of its trim, but remaining are half-length sidelights above recessed panels and the whole surround has broad proportions. There are one story ells on the east and west which were possibly original as they appear as early as the map of 1876. The west ell was most likely an open porch which was later enclosed. Practitioners of the Gothic Revival style preferred the front gable elevation for the picturesque possibilities of a steeply pitched roof which is often decorated with scroll-cut barge boards. Such was the case with this house which has lost the original barge boards in its main gable, but they remain on the east ell. The west ell has more recent barge board replacements.

The frequency of this house form during the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival and subsequent stylistic periods in Lee is underscored by the fact that in East Lee alone, similar forms survive at the Late Federal house on Jacob's Ladder Road (now a kennel), 163 Cape Street; and 379 Cape Street.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house is distinguished by the fact that it was the home of Charles A. Gates who was celebrated in local history accounts and in poetry as a young man of 16 who walked off one day in June of 1861 from his home and without saying goodbye to anyone, joined the Union Army. He is said to have returned as unannounced as he left, having retrieved the axe, and basket he had stowed away in a stone wall three years earlier, and driving the same red cows he had left behind. An apocryphal version of the story has him returning with one arm missing, but that seems to be poetic license rather than truth. Subsequent owners were W.R. Gates in 1876, and John Parsons in 1895. Parsons, like a number of his neighbors in East Lee was a laborer and may have been employed in one of Lee's mills. Franklin Gardner lived here in 1904 and was followed by his son Edward Gardner who worked in Lawrence until he returned to live in East Lee.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, c.1978.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-19

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

or village) East Lee

pe Street

dwelling

dwelling

c. 1905

1905

an

over stone & sided with

wood

Wall/Trim asphalt shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Major Alteration (with dates) attached shed and

deck on north facade c. 1980

Condition poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date

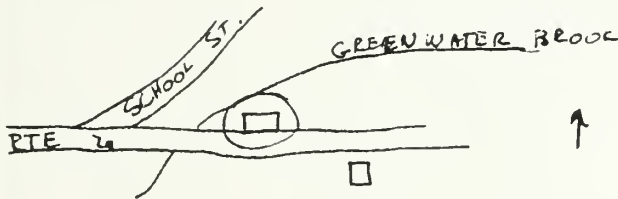
Acreage 0.47 acres

Setting Faces south and is set close to road

on a lot which slopes to the brook on the north

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings with the community.*

This is a one and a half story, front gabled house with a side hall plan. Three bays wide, the first floor has pair windows of 6/1 sash, a practice which became more common at the turn of the century during the Colonial Revival period. Second floor windows have 3/1 vertical paned sash which is also Colonial Revival in style. The plan and elevation of the house, however, is a retardataire version of the Greek Revival cottage which appears in this area as early as the late 1820s. The eaves of the house are boxed, but as was common in the area, there are very thin returns. The main entry is sheltered by a small shed roof portico on braces which was a later addition. The door surround itself is planar and without ornament. The house has a one and a half story ell on the east for an L-shaped plan. Altogether this is an architecturally conservative house whose construction was not elaborate. It should be pointed out that the siting of the building so close to the road and on a slope which exposes its basement almost full-length, is a placement that would not have taken place much before the turn of the century.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built in an area of East Lee which was severely affected by the flood of 1886 and that of 1968. Each time, a dam at Lee Lake burst and flooded the area of East Lee to the Housatonic River. A considerable amount of property and lives were lost in 1886 and this house was presumably built in its wake and set above the flood level of Greenwater Pond on its north. Calvin Jones may have been its first owner as is suggested on the map of 1904. Jones was a farmer who owned property here and north towards Dodgetown. East Lee residents worked in local mills and/or farmed, and as industries moved towards the Housatonic River for greater mill power, East Lee did not become highly developed and retained its open, rural aspect.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[ ]

USGS Quad

East Lee

[ ]

Area(s)

Form Number

[ ] [ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lee



l Street

Bradley Street School

multifamily dwelling

school house

c.1800

al

ed concrete

Wall/Trim Clapboards

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) dormers added 1970s

Condition good

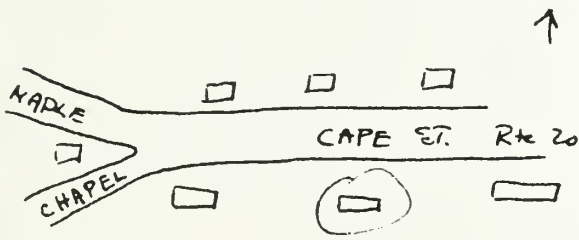
Moved  No  Yes  Date 1970s

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting Faces north on open lot.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a one and a half story building which has an end gable roof with boxed eaves, but no returns. The building sits on poured concrete foundations with basement windows inserted. It is five bays long and one bay deep for a rectangular plan. The center entrance surround has a Federal style fan light and half length sidelights. A secondary entrance has a pedimented surround on narrow pilasters. Recessed, six panel doors are in each entrance. There are two new sets of pressure treated, wood steps at the entries with heavy railings. Window surrounds are plane except for a gable window on the east facade which has a thin cap lintel. Sash is 6/6. Three gabled dormers were added to the roof on the north and a single full-width gable across the south side of the roof has been added as well. Despite its alterations, this building retains considerable historical material on the exterior.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Originally the Bradley Street School in Lee which was built c. 1800, this building has been moved twice and finally turned into an apartment house.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W.Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, c.1978.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

BUILDING

Assessor's number

21-28

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s) Form Number

Historical Commission  
Street  
Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East

Address Cape Street

Historic Name Barlow House

Present vacant

Original dwelling

Date of Construction c.1830

Source Hyde, Lee Centennial History.

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone & concrete

Wall/Trim clapboards & novelty siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) bell on rear

(c.1900); chimney on street facade (c.1970)

Condition poor

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

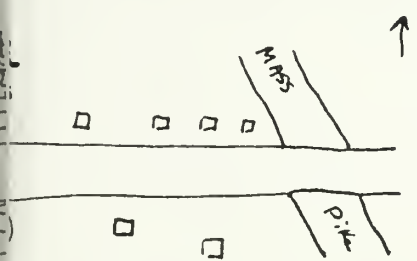
Acreage 42 acres

Setting Set on hillside above street level,

faces north



of the area indicating properties within  
each property for which individual  
surveys have been completed. Label streets  
and lot numbers, if any. Attach a separate  
map if this is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Bonnie Parsons

PVPC

(day/year) 12/1/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a 1 1/2 story house which is five bays wide and one bay deep under an end gable roof. The second story has three Greek Revival style knee-high windows which is a characteristic of Berkshire County architecture during the Federal and Greek Revival periods. The south side of the house has a saltbox extension on concrete foundations and it is sided with weatherboard, a novelty siding from the 1920s. A dormer has been placed on the rear of the roof and a later porch has been added on the north or street facade. This facade has also had an exterior chimney added to it in the center. The entry to the house is assymetrical and its surround as well as the window surrounds are a simple carpenter style. Sash is 4/4.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Barlow family was among the first settlers of Lee. They arrived in the 1770s having come from Sandwich on Cape Cod. Two brothers, Seth and Lemuel Barlow are said to have arrived between 1772 and 1775. Lemuel left that summer for the Revolution as a soldier. The section of town in which these first arrivals lived was at the end of present-day Chestnut Street in an area called "Dodgetown". Later the homes in Dodgetown were lost and this Barlow house on Cape Street became the last of their extant houses. One of its last inhabitants was James Barlow who died at the age of 76 in April of 1914. At his death he was called the last of the old time men from East Lee and the last of the original Barlow line to give up his home in Dodgetown.. He was a son of Reuben, descendent of Seth Barlow. In 1859 James Barlow married Mary Ingram after whose family the chapel across the street was named.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, c.1978.

Hyde, Rev. C.M. and Alexander Hyde, compilers. Lee. The Centennial Celebration and a Centennial History of the Town of Lee, Massachusetts., Springfield, 1878.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

28-20

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

or village) East Lee

s Ladder Road

Griffin Farm

dwelling

dwelling

c. 1830

f 1871

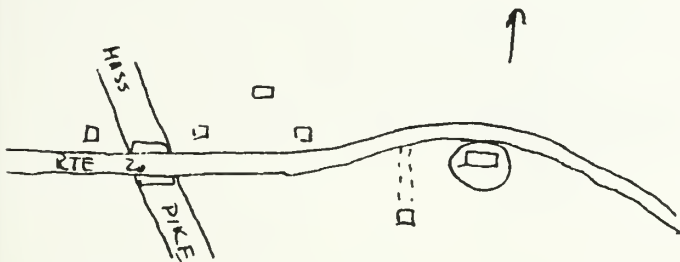
Revival

ible



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim clapboards

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures livestock barn;  
and two storage barns; one shed

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 15.7 acres

Setting Set close to road with land sloping  
away behind house to south

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a typical one and a half story, Greek Revival, end gable house. It is five bays wide and two deep for a rectangular plan. Greek Revival features characteristic of the Berkshire County hilltowns are the small second story casement windows and the narrow, thin eaves without returns. A center chimney is a very conservative feature. The door surround is a simple plane surround which may have been a later alteration. It has moulded cornice trim which repeats the moulded trim on the window surrounds. There are single story additions on the east and west facades.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This farm appears to have been occupied by one family among the longest of any property in East Lee. the Griffin family has been farming this property at least since 1876 when the first atlas and directory listings indicate the Griffen (sic) Brothers here as and farmers. The atlas of 1871 indicates the house and a saw mill at the rear of Greenwater Pond Brook. In 1876 the Griffen Brothers were named. In 1895 the atlas places two Griffen houses side by side: Samuel Griffin and Edward Griffin. Both were listed as farmers in the directory for that year. The two were still farming in 1904-1907 and the sawmill existed on Greenwater Brook. By 1922 Wilbur T. Griffin is listed in the directory as living and farming at this house. East Lee farmers did not have a staple crop but instead they kept a few cows, raised corn, wheat, oats and rye, among other common crops, and managed to support themselves and send to market their surplus. This farm is a good example of that type of agriculture in Lee.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W.Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

21-25

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

(or village) East Lee

ape Street \_\_\_\_\_

The "Here You Are" \_\_\_\_\_

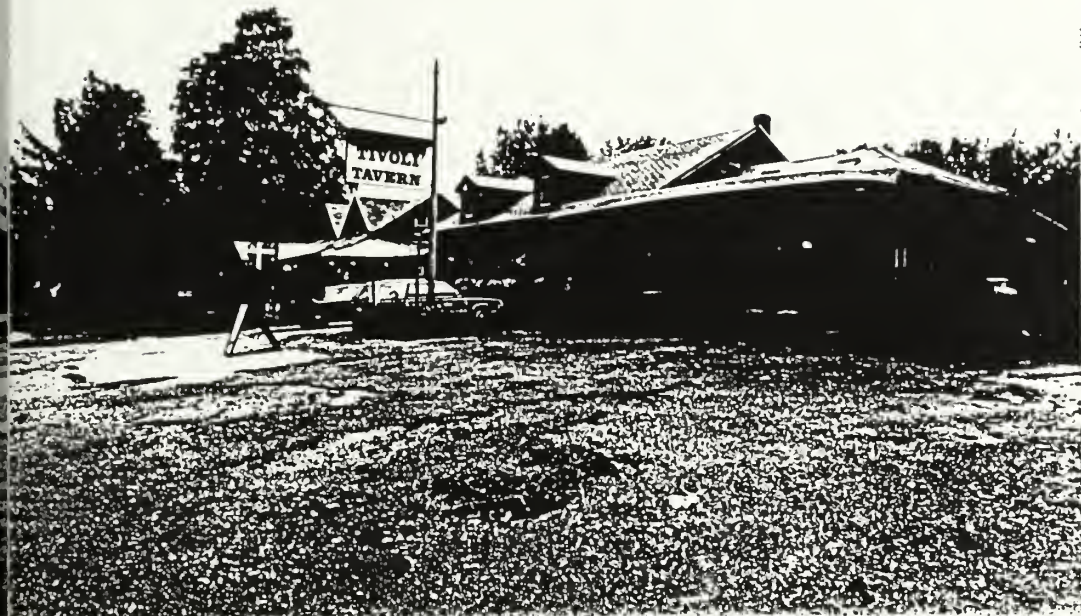
restaurant \_\_\_\_\_

dwelling \_\_\_\_\_

c.1850 \_\_\_\_\_

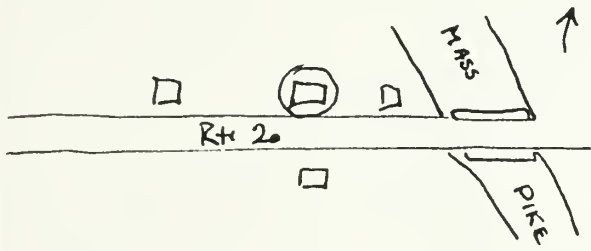
f 1871 \_\_\_\_\_

Revival altered \_\_\_\_\_



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim vertical siding and brick & stucco

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures storage

building c.1890

Major Alteration (with dates) multiple additions

from 1948 -

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 13.8 acres

Setting Set close to road, facing south

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This a three-part building. The first part, now the main entrance to the restaurant, is a one and a half story house form with an end gable roof and Gothic Revival twin dormers. The former house is surrounded on three facades by a one story enclosed porch which is entered through a gabled prtico. The building's second section is connected to the first by an extension of the enclosed porch on the east facade. It is alsoa one and a half story building, brick construction with vertical siding applied to the south facade. It has two interior brick chimneys on the end gable roof where there are also two gabled dormers whose windows have been replaced by louvres. The facade is divided into six bays with 3/1 Colonial Revival style sash. This second section appears to date from the early 20th century. The third section of the building is a one story stucco, vertical and weatherboard sided ell with a hipped roof and a rounded roof projection at the eaves on the south facade. It is four bays wide and appears to date from the late 1940s.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The Tivoli Tavern began as a farmhouse c.1850 although it is first documented on a map in 1871. By 1876 it was owned by F. Minor and was part of the oldings of Frank Griffin who was a farmer and stone mason in East Lee. Frank Griffen (sic) is listed as the owner in 1904 and seems to have moved to Pittsfield soon after as he is listed in the Directory of Lee for 1907 as having moved. Behind the building the Huckleberry Line was built between 1910 and 1916. Although the trolley had a short life, travel along Jacob's Ladder Trail (Cape Street and Route 20) between Westfield and Lee increased considerably with the advent of the automobile and conversion of the house into the "Here You Are" restaurant was a natural result of the increased tourism.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

- H.F. Walling and O.W.Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.  
F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.  
James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.  
Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.  
Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.  
Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, 1978.  
Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

28-7

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s) Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

Place (neighborhood or village) East Lee



Ladder Road

dwelling

dwelling

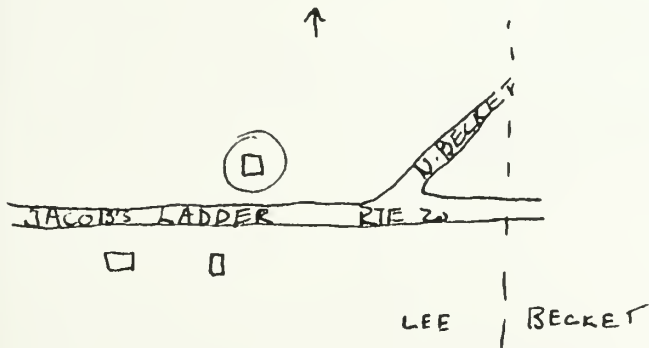
c. 1830

of 1871

Federal

White covered stone

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures kennel, stable, barn

Major Alteration (with dates) ells 1970s

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 7.1 acres

Setting Faces south, set close to road on small rise

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a one and a half story, late Federal style house with a front gable and side hall entry plan. With its gable orientation, the house suggests the Greek Revival style, however, the simple carpenter surrounds at door and windows are Federal in proportion, which is tall and relatively narrow, and has a transom. Sash is 1/1 and there are two casement replacement sash on the second story. Typical of this period in Berkshire County is the lack of detail at the eaves which are not boxed, but do have returns. Two single story ells on the north and east and a screened in porch on the west were 20th century additions which added complexity to the very simple farm house.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Recorded historical information on this house does not appear until 1871 when the house appears on the atlas of that year, but without owner attribute. By 1876 it is listed as part of the N. Clark estate, and in 1895 it was owned by David Evans. Evans was an East Lee farmer who was active at least through the first decade of the 20th century. Later the house was owned by two men who built and operated a diner in front and east of the house. This function reflects the importance of Jacob's Ladder Road as the major route between Springfield and Albany which required lodging, food and services for tourists at an expanded scale from 1910 when the road was improved and enabled cars to surmount the summit. Farmers who had supplemented their incomes as masons, mill workers and similar occupations, now turned to capitalizing on the new tourist traffic and more than one lunch counter and restaurant was put up. This property is a good example of the influence of a road culture on the country side despite the fact that the diner itself is no longer extant. It continues to operate in a commercial manner as a kennel and riding stable.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati, Florence. See All the People, Lee, c.1978.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

20-20

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s) Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

or village) East Lee

ape Street

dwelling

dwelling

c.1890

1895

an

Foundation cement over stone

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Major Alteration (with dates) enclosed porch on

south (1970s), one story ell on east (1960s), deck on

north

Condition good

Moved  No  Yes  Date

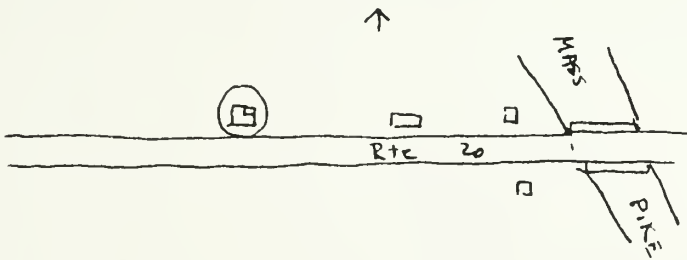
Acreage 0.58 acres

Setting Faces south, set close to road on

small rise.

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This one and a half story house is a good example of the conservative persistence of the Greek Revival front gable, side hall plan house. Here the Berkshire County distinguishing feature of very thin eaves and narrow returns is combined with slight Colonial Revival stylistic features of 3/1 sash and paired windows on the second floor to make for a building which is almost utilitarian in its aspect. The main block of the house is L-shaped, but a later addition on the south facade of one story fills in the corner for a rectangular plan with a second ell on the east which is one story in height. The main entry is tall and thin and now sheltered by a shed roof portico which is a later addition.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

It is possible that this house appears on the atlas of 1876 as belonging to C. Dennison; however, it is more likely that the house was built after that date and that it appears first on the 1895 atlas as belonging to Mrs. Jane de Forest. The Lee Directory of 1895 lists de Forest, but gives no occupation. The Directory of 1907-08 lists her as the widow of Alexander. Houses in East Lee on the north side of the road were built very close to the road after 1886 in order to protect them from flooding. In 1886 the Lee Lake dam broke and flooded East Lee along Greenwater Pond Brook to the Housatonic. Those houses which were built after that date were more likely to be sited close to the road, a precaution that paid off in 1968 when the dam once again broke.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

21-26

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

Empty boxes for area and form number.

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

(or village) East Lee

ape Street

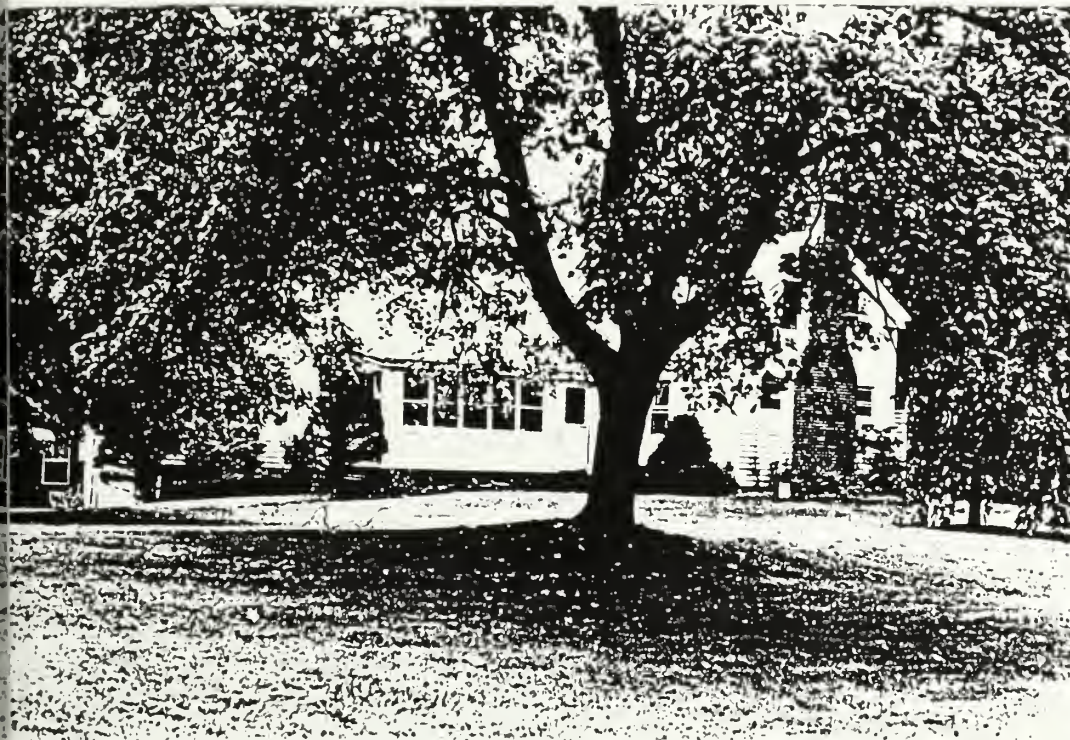
dwelling

dwelling

c. 1870

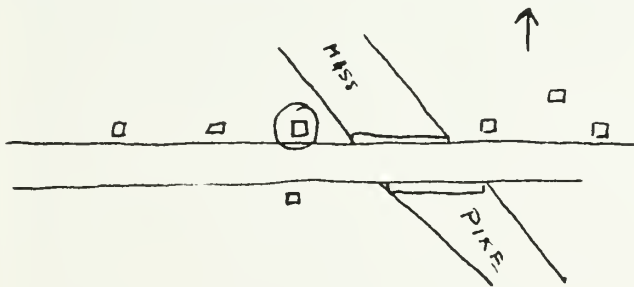
Atlas

sible



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim vinyl

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

Major Alteration (with dates) chimney, porch & porch ell added 1950s; deck added 1980s

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 13.8 acres

Setting Set back from the road at the edge of a stream and ravine

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 9/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This is a one and a half story house which is two bays by three bays wide in plan and has a front gable roof. The house has been sided with vinyl and has had several additions to it including an exterior brick chimney and altered fenestration, so the original orientation and any stylistic features are no longer evident. However, the main block of the house with its gabled roof and eaves returns suggests that this section of the house in proportion dates from the third quarter of the 19th century.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

East Lee was settled by a group of families from Cape Cod at the opening of the 18th century. The small village of East Lee by 1760 had begun using water power from the two streams which pass through it to start small mills with a grist mill which was followed up to five other mills by 1800. It was also an agricultural section of town farmed from the 1700s. After the mills moved to Lee proper, along the Housatonic River in the second half of the 19th century, farming dominated the economy of East Lee. This house is one of those farmhouses which were scattered along the main route between Springfield and Pittsfield in East Lee. They were mainly market garden farms, raising for their own subsistence and selling extra produce in local markets. This house appears with its owner unidentified on an 1871 atlas, but by 1876 it is identified as being owned by the Griffin Brothers. Franklin L. Griffin is listed in 1895 in East Lee as a farmer and stone mason; however, the house appears on the 1895 atlas as being owned by Calvin Jones, farmer from East Lee. By 1904 the house was part of the Gifford Estate. Warren L. Gifford was a carpenter and millwright and Miss Alice Gifford was listed in 1907 as boarding in East Lee on Cape Street.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts, Boston, 1871.

F.W. Beers. County Atlas of Berkshire, Massachusetts, New York, 1876.

James M. Beirne. Atlas of the Garden Spots of Berkshire, Stockbridge, 1895.

Barnes and Farnham. Atlas of Berkshire County Massachusetts, Pittsfield, 1904.

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

21-20

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

--	--

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 80 Boylston Street  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Lee

(or village) East Lee



ape Street

Ingram Chapel

chapel

dwelling

c. 1880

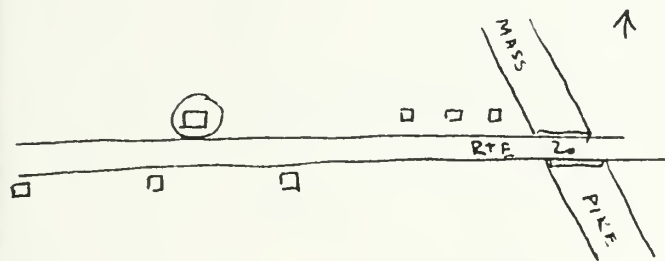
atlas

Queen Anne

ite covered stone

Sketch map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Wall/Trim asphalt shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures garage

Major Alteration (with dates) converted to house

1960s?

Condition fair

Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage .58 acres

Setting Set close to road on large, open lot

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/day/year) 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The highly uncommon form of this house is due to the fact that it began life as a Queen Anne chapel and lost many of its identifying features in its conversion to a house. An historical photograph indicates that it was a gabled building with a pyramidally roofed corner tower at its southwest corner. The main entrance was in this tower below a gables portico whose gable field was composed of three trusses. The main block of the chapel had a tripartite window composition with Gothic pointed arches. The lower two thirds of the building was covered in clapboards and the upper in ornamental shingles. As converted, the building has lost its tower although the main entrance is in the same location. Two floors of fenestration have been added to the street facade and the tripartite window composition has lost its peaked surrounds and leaded glass. A flat roofed portico supported on wrought iron columns has been added as has a rear ell of one story which includes a two car garage. The rear wall chimney of the chapel has been truncated.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This is one of two chapels built in East Lee in the second half of the 19th century. The first chapel, East Lee Union, was torn down in 1955 leaving this, the Ingram Chapel, which seems to have been converted in the 1960 to a house. The chapel was built by the Ingram family who lived across the street in a house now gone. East Lee children attended Sunday school here and a "church wagon" picked up passengers each Sunday in 1901 and delivered them to the two chapels for ten cents. Ministers from Lee rotated through the chapel delivering sermons but the building served as a meeting spot for the community as well as a chapel.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Directories of the Town of Lee, 1895-1968.

Consolati. See All the People, Lee, 1977.

Dennis, Betty. Personal Interview, November, 1993.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

[Empty box]

USGS Quad

East Lee

Area(s)

Form Number

[Empty box]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Becket \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or village) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of Route 20 and Fred Snow

Summit House

vacant

resort/store/tourist attraction

1925

by Brusco. Growing up on

\_\_\_\_\_ sman/Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_ George Phelps, Charles

Canedy

Exterior Material:

Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ concrete

Wall/Trim \_\_\_\_\_ clapboards, novelty siding

Roof \_\_\_\_\_ asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures \_\_\_\_\_

Major Alteration (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_ east block added 1929

Condition \_\_\_\_\_ poor

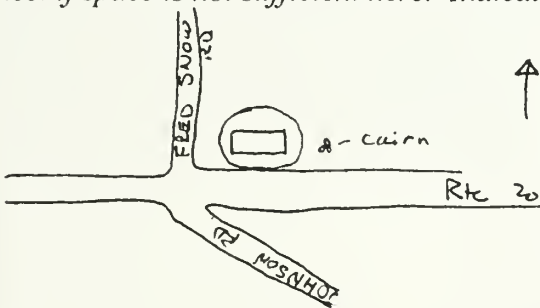
Moved  No  Yes  Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting \_\_\_\_\_ Set close to road, facing south on top  
of Morey Hill

Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



Recorded by \_\_\_\_\_ Bonnie Parsons

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ PVPC

Date (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ 11/22/93

## BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION  *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The Summit house is a two story building in two sections. The first section which is the original building is a two story building with a shallow, hipped roof whose purlins are exposed in a Craftsman style. As originally built, the wide roof extension was supported on slender posts for porches on both the first and second stories. The House originally had a porch around three sides on the second floor and two sides on the first floor. Crossed brace railings were added shortly after completion of the building. There were about 10 bedrooms in the original section. The building was six bays wide and three bays deep and sash was 2/2. An addition was put on the east side of the Summit, c.1929. It contained the kitchen, dining room and three bedrooms on the second floor. It is a two story section under a hipped roof with an additional three bays length. One of the bays was converted to a door probably after 1946 when the building was sold. Sash in this new section includes a Colonial Revival vertical 3/1. Alterations to the building are many in the form of porch removal, window alterations and siding changes. In one of the most character changing alterations, the former first story porch overhang has been altered to a pent roof with shingled surface. The building is now vacant and open to the elements.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE  *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

George and Eva Phelps and Charles Canedy built "The Summit" in 1925 as a gas station, and souvenir store and along with the building they constructed an observation tower for tourists along the Jacob's Ladder Trail. When they arrived at the Summit, there was already in place a stone cairn begun in 1910 with construction of the improved road. The cairn was moved from the north east corner of Route 20 and Fred Snow Road at a later date. (See Structure form on the cairn) A garage with rental stalls for state trucks was north of the tower. A barn was north of the Summit house and burned down in 1939. Three cottages were built east of the store and two west of Fred Snow Road in 1930. A fifth cottage was built up Fred Snow Road in 1940. An ice house and pig pen, a shop with sawmill, forge and generators were also part of the property. For tourists the Summit also provided a gondola and picnic tables across the road. The store was closed 1943-44 and sold in 1946. The east addition was put up c.1929/1930. It was covered in dark green asbestos shingles, then changed to clapboards in 1940 when its front porches and east porches were demolished. After its sale in 1946, the Summit became Deer's Inn and operated until c.1982.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES  *see continuation sheet*

Bruso, Shirley Phelps. Growing up on Jacob's Ladder, privately published, 1982.

\_\_\_\_\_. Postcard collection of Jacob's Ladder Trail and The Summit.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

FORM F - STRUCTURE

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

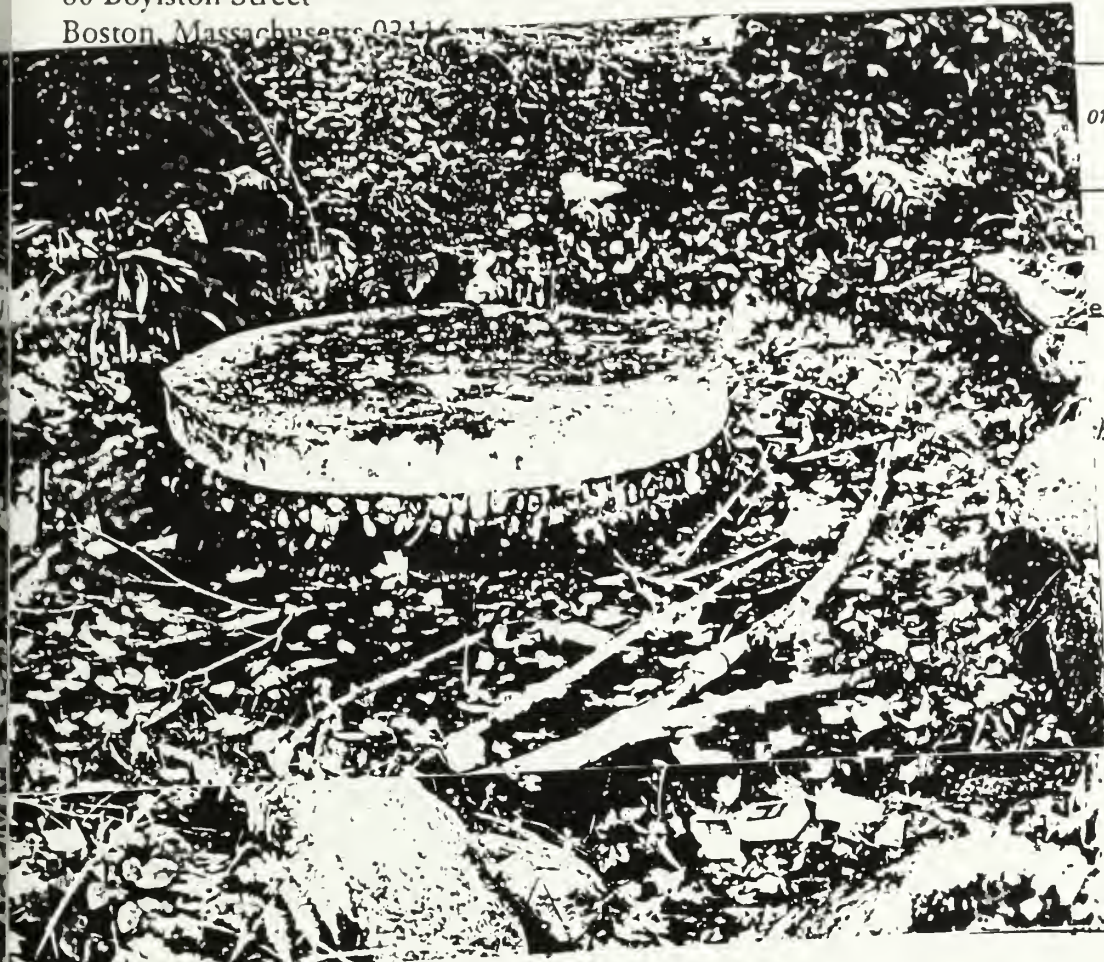
[ ]

East Lee

[ ]

[ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116



or village) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ north side of road near  
Ladder Trail, Route 20  
Well and Spring

Public  Private

(check one):

- powderhouse
- carousel
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

\_\_\_\_\_ well and spring

\_\_\_\_\_ c. 1930

\_\_\_\_\_ postcard, c. 1930

\_\_\_\_\_ streets including route numbers, if any. Circle  
and number the inventoried structure. Indicate  
north.

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) fieldstone and concrete

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition poor

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

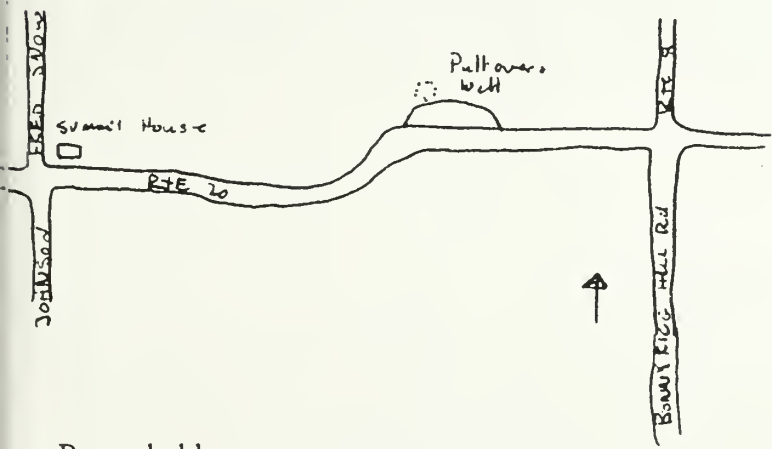
Setting At edge of woods in pull-over on

north side of Route 20

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) 11/23/93



## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

Jacob's Well and Jacob's Spring are at the location of a natural spring in Becket. The spring is directed by a narrow pipe which has been mounted in a concrete block about 2 1/2' x 1 1/2' x 1 1/2'. The water empties into a small, rock-bordered area of earth. About three feet north of the spring is the well, a circular structure about 3 1/2' in diameter which has a pebblestone base and a circular concrete cap stone. The well is encircled by a row of small boulders.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

Jacob's Well was built on Route 20 in Becket at the site of a natural spring in the 1920s as part of the attraction of a local inn called Jacob's Dream. The inn is now gone, but old postcards depict a rustic Craftsman style building with several cabins and numerous open pavilions for picnicing beside it. The inn operated as one of the Jacob's Ladder tourist attractions although it also was a gathering spot for residents. The Hazeltons owned and ran the well in the 1920s and 30s with restaurant, gift shop and rooms. The spring was important for early motorists who stopped for water for overheated cars in ascent over the hill. The original Ladder was a 1 1/2 mile stretch of steep road which was nearly impassable by automobiles until a new macadamized bypass was constructed in 1910 to great acclaim as it enabled the Boston-Albany trip to be reduced by three hours. This encouraged tourism and resulted in the tourists facilities represented by Jacob's Dream and the nearby Summit House.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Country Journal? September, 1910.  
Valley Echo, April 15, 1910.  
Esther Molthrop. Letter. undated.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



FORM F - STRUCTURE

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Ar . . .)

Form Number

[ ]

East Lee

[ ]

[ ]

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
80 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Town Chester and Becket

(or village) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ following Route 20

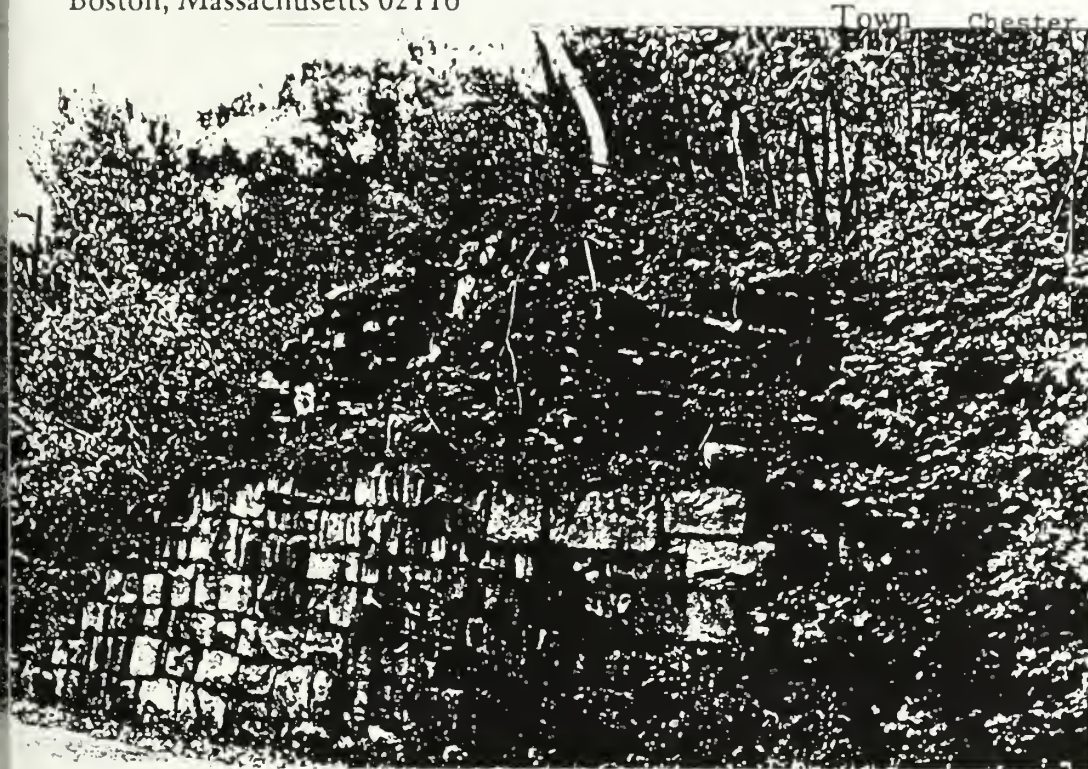
\_\_\_\_\_ Becket Granite Railroad

Public  Private

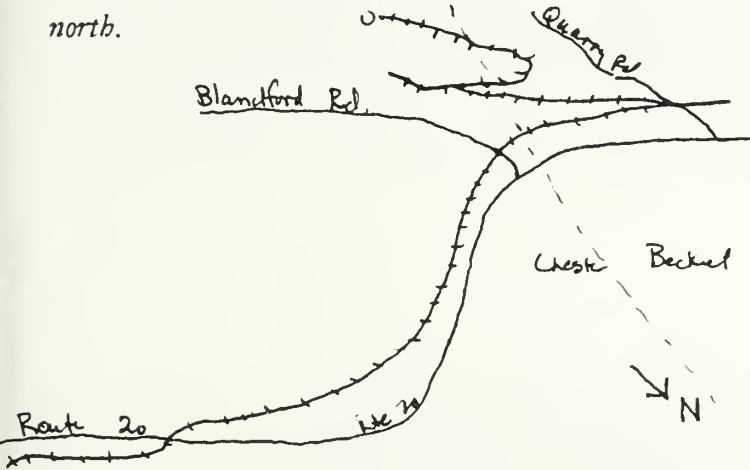
(check one):

- powderhouse
- carousel
- boat or ship
- street
- tower
- wall
- windmill
- tunnel

\_\_\_\_\_ railroad bed



Draw a map showing the structure's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between structure and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried structure. Indicate north.



Date of Construction 1898

Source Mulholland & Arthur, A Bicentennial History of Becket, 1964.

Architect, Engineer or Designer \_\_\_\_\_

Material(s) stone & earth

Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition fair to good

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Setting Runs from Chester Factory Village

to Becket border with Chester, roughly

parallel to Route 20

Recorded by Bonnie Parsons

Organization PVPC

Date (month/year) 11/23/93

## STRUCTURE FORM

### DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

*Describe important design features and evaluate in terms of other structures within the community.*

The Chester-Becket Granite Railroad line can still be followed for much of its length between Chester Factory Village to Becket near its eastern border with Chester. It is approximately 15 feet wide and where it has not been interrupted by roads or built upon and it was originally about six miles long. The rails have been taken up and in some sections the vegetation has almost filled it in but a stone base has kept regrowth low. Still visible are the switch-backs west of Blandford Road and the trestle embankments at Blandford Road. (The trestle burned in 1910.)

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Explain the history of the structure, and how it relates to the development of the community.*

The Chester-Becket Granite Railroad was constructed in 1898 to connect the Becket granite quarries to the finishing sheds and the railroad in Chester Factory Village. In Chester was a granite cutting operation stone shed where stone was cut before being loaded on the railroad cars which took it to market. The granite office was at Main Street in Chester Factory Village Historic District. The railroad was used for hauling charcoal from the kilns at Charcoal City and lumber and pulpwood. The first quarry which was lower was the "Hudson & Chester Granite Company". The second which was actually in Otis was known as the Bove Quarry and was connected to the railroad in 1902 and 1903 with track extensions.

Oxen and two wheeled dump carts were used to build the railroad and the rock was cut by hand with the help of blasting charges. The first engine was a wood burner. In 1905-06 the Boston & Albany Railroad took over the operation. The trip took 1 1/2-2 hours. In 1910 the Bove Quarry was abandoned and in 1914 track were taken up. The lower quarry prospered but in 1929 it was only using trucks. In 1935 the tracks were taken up.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

- Parker, Norvel. "Memories of the Boston & Albany Railroad" unpublished ms., March, 1976.  
Spencer, Leonard Holmes. "The Chester-Becket Railroad", Bicentennial History of Becket, Archer & Mulholland, (eds.), 1964.

- Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*





**PIONEER VALLEY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

26 Central Street • West Springfield, MA 01089  
(413) 781-6045